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Fish & Wildlife 2000

Annual Report of Accomplishments FY 1991

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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

February 14, 1992

IN REPLY REFER TO:
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Information Bulletin No. 92 - 240

To: All AFO's

From: Director

Subject: Fish and Wildlife 2000 1991 Annual Report of Accomplishments

Attached is a copy of the subject report that highlights some of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) accomplishments to date. Additional copies are being provided to each State office under separate cover.

We want to express our appreciation to all for the hard work and extensive field efforts in making Fish and Wildlife 2000 a reality on-the-ground. Please share copies of this report with your cooperators and others you deem

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BLM MISSION STATEMENT

The BLM is responsible for the balanced management of public lands and resources and their various values so that they best serve the American people.

Management is based upon the principles of multiple-use and sustained yield, a combination of uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and non-renewable resources. These resources include recreation, rangeland, forest, minerals, watershed, fish and wildlife, wilderness and natural, scenic, scientific, educational and cultural values.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The fish and wildlife resources found on the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are among the great natural treasures of the United States. These public lands provide homes for more than 3,000 species of mammals, reptiles, fish, and birds.

The BLM is your steward for 270 million acres of public lands containing a variety of ecosystems and spectacular habitats that encompass mesas, rock canyons, towering mountain peaks, sundrenched deserts, pristine lakes, fast-flowing rivers, evergreen forests, ocean cliffs and arctic plains throughout our nation. Our primary management challenge is to protect and enhance these valuable resources while providing for recreation, mineral development and cultural values. We strive to balance the needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources.

To guide the continued management of these important fish and wildlife habitats, the BLM has initiated its program FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 - A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE. This comprehensive program outlines a strategy for effective management of fish and wildlife resources on public lands; encourages cooperation between the BLM and other governmental agencies, special interest groups, and private industry; and promotes the long-term enhancement of special wildland resources.

Many organizations, individuals and volunteers have assisted the BLM in tackling its myriad of challenges and in implementing FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000. I am most appreciative of these many contributions and proud of our numerous accomplishments this past year. This third annual report details those accomplishments.

When visiting the BLM lands, you will be rewarded by the opportunity to experience BLM's fish and wildlife heritage firsthand. The BLM lands provide many opportunities for birdwatching, nature photography, wildflower viewing, hunting, and fishing. The Bureau of Land Management invites you to become involved in protecting these valuable animals in their natural wildland habitats. We have limitless opportunities to achieve the vision of FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000.

Cy Jamison

Cy Jamison

Annual Report of Accomplishments, FY 1991

Roosevelt Elk, Reedsport, Oregon.

Majestic Roosevelt elk rule in the shadow of giant redwoods in Reedsport, Oregon.

Sweetwater River winds through woodlands next to the brawny ridges and arid plains of the Rattlesnake Mountains in Wyoming.

Wildflowers parade vivid colors across Cumberland Basin near Colorado's La Plata Mountains.

Stately sea lions bask on rocky beaches in California.

WHAT THIS REPORT IS

This report is the Third Annual Implementation Status Report on FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000. FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 is the first comprehensive plan for the BLM's vast wildlife and fisheries resources. It provides managers with a sense of where fish and wildlife resources fit in with a multitude of other BLM resources and where the BLM is headed in this decade.

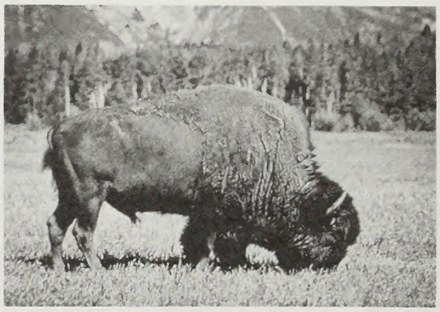
But it is more than just a plan. It is a picture and a vision of where the agency should be in the future.

Most importantly, though, FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 means change "on-the-ground"! It means partnership with others to achieve fish, wildlife and special status plant objectives. It is being felt every working day on projects scattered across the 270 million acres of public land managed by the BLM.

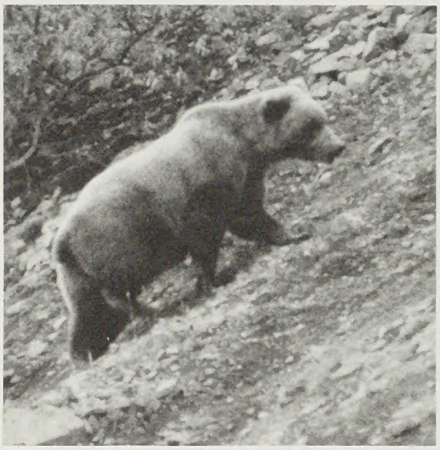
This report will tell you about some of these projects and accomplishments. It will also serve to demonstrate the BLM's desire and intent to be accountable to the Congress and to the American people.

We hope you will understand that FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 is no ordinary plan, but one that has changed the way the BLM looks at and manages these valuable resources.

Buffalo



Grizzly Bear



AMERICA'S FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES OCCURRING ON BLM LANDS

One word stands out when describing BLM's fish and wildlife resources. That word is **DIVERSITY!**

No other Federal or State agency manages more fish and wildlife habitat than the BLM. More than 3,000 species of mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians make their homes on the public lands. Look at just a few examples:

- ★ All native species of big game in North America can be found on the BLM lands.
- ★ Eighty percent of the remaining desert bighorn sheep habitat is on land administered by the BLM.
- ★ All North American native species of quail and grouse occur on the BLM lands.
- ★ Outstanding raptor habitat, perhaps the best in the world, is on the BLM lands, including the renowned Snake River Birds of Prey Area in Idaho.
- ★ Extensive habitat for salmon, trout and unusual desert fish species can be found on the BLM lands.
- ★ Over 1,000 Federally listed threatened, endangered and candidate species occur on the BLM lands.
- ★ Some 20 million acres of wetlands provide homes for waterfowl and other wildlife on the BLM lands.

Caribou

Fish and Wildlife Habitat on Public Lands.

Habitat	Acres Lower 48 States	Alaska
Big game	125,406,428	70,743,000
Small game	148,457,488	69,355,000
Waterfowl,Wetlands	1,436,805	51,628,000
Riparian	888,865	7,101,000
Lakes	167,991	2,269,000
Reservoirs	172,746	0
Streams (miles)	33,386	135,311

Economic Importance of Hunting and Fishing on Public Lands.

Economic Factor	Total
Number of residents who hunt[1]	2.1 million
Total hunting days[1]	38.3 million
Annual average hunting expenditures[1]	$1.973.1 billion
Average annual expenditures for non-consumptive wildlife recreation[1]	$3,285.5 billion
Total fishing days[1]	157.1 million
Expenditures[2]	$4,728.3 billion
Industrial activity (output)[2]	$7,387.3 billion
Sales tax[2]	$199.5 million
Jobs[2]	138,338
Earnings[2]	$34.0 billion
Income tax[2]	$79.9 million

Source: [1] *1985 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife Associated Recreation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*
[2] *Sport Fishing Institute, 1989.*

Designed to improve the working relationship between outfitters and the BLM, each year the Idaho Cottonwood Resource Area hosts an orientation for outfitters and guides who operate float trips on the Salmon River. Orientation sessions are provided for terrestrial wildlife, fisheries, botany, threatened and endangered species, cultural resources, and recreation management.

More than ever, Americans want areas for fish and wildlife. The desire to fish, to hunt, to see wildlife, photograph it, and otherwise enjoy these natural treasures, is greater than ever. FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 is the right plan at the right time, filling a growing need in our society.

There is another side to it, the business side. According to the National Survey of Hunting and Fishing published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, $10 billion was spent on fishing, hunting and non-consumptive wildlife recreation on the BLM lands last year. Good habitat for fish and wildlife not only makes biological sense, it is also a sound business investment.

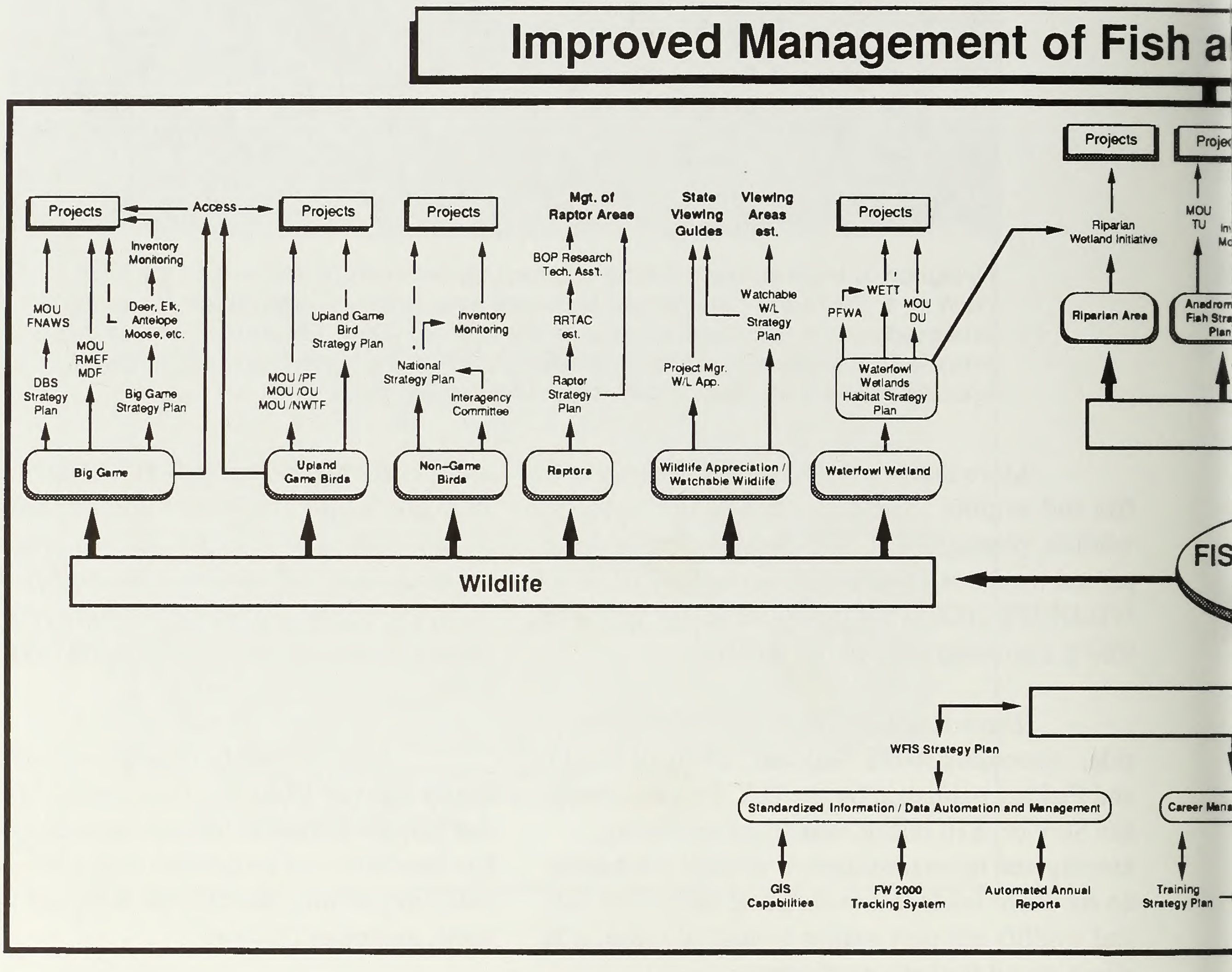
Improving fish and wildlife habitat, managing for recovery of threatened and endangered species and managing for highly mobile species, such as waterfowl, raptors, and big game, are beyond the scope of the BLM alone. FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 underscores the need for aggressive pursuit of partnerships with like- minded individuals and organizations. It has provided a catalyst for the BLM to emerge as a leader and to have a greater impact on the resource than it could have achieved alone.

It has served to rally the various administrative units of BLM, the Department of the Interior and the Congress toward common goals. It has increased and broadened cooperative work with neighboring landowners, other public land users, and other partners.

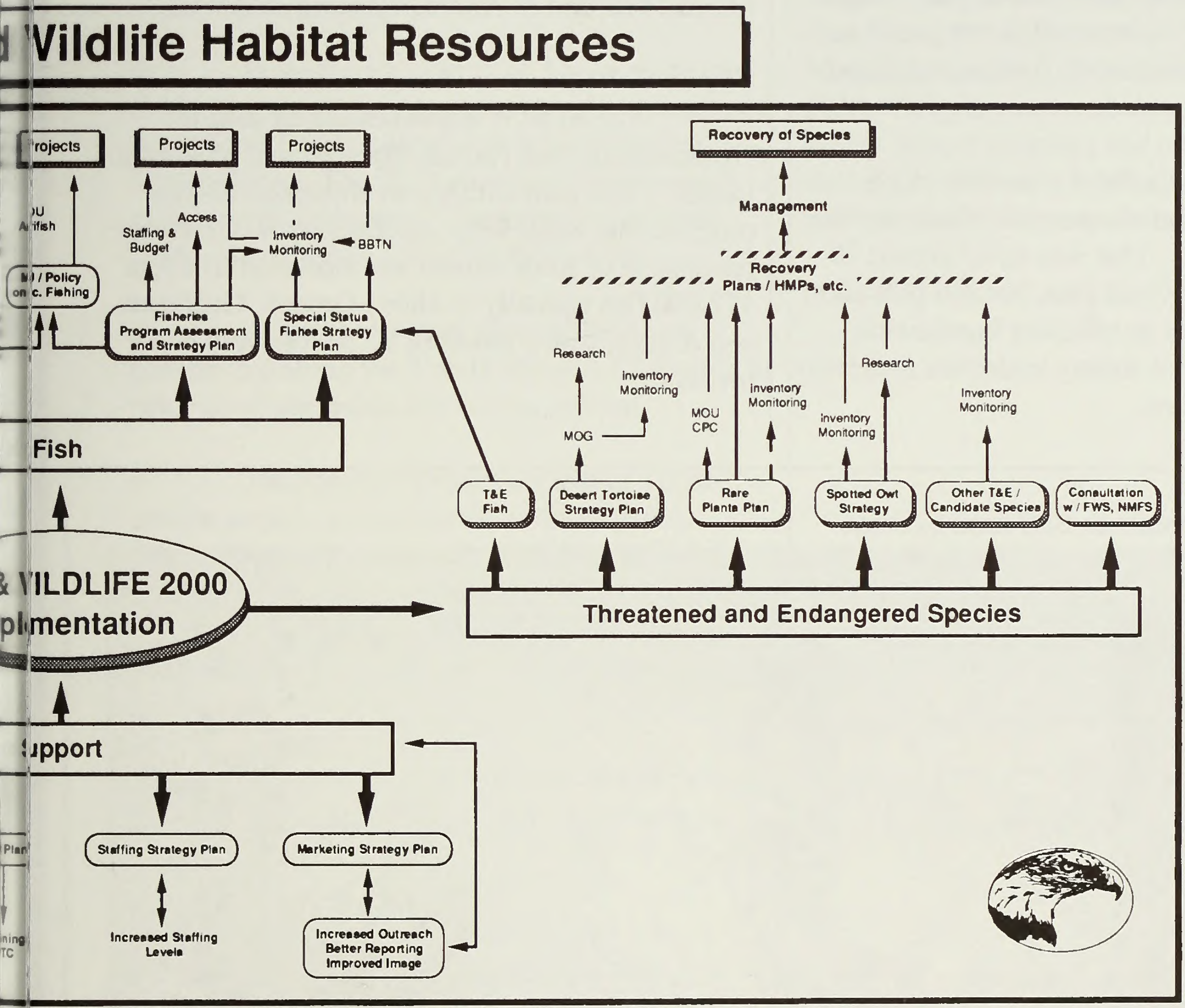
The accomplishments highlighted are divided into the three components outlined in FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000: Wildlife Habitat Management, Fisheries Habitat Management and Threatened and Endangered Species Management.

How Fish and Wildlife 2000 Initiatives Fit Together

FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 sets the national goals and objectives for the program. National strategy plans have been developed to identify specific strategies for achieving specific national goals and objec-



tives in FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000. State FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 plans have been developed to guide the program at the State and field level.



FISHERIES HABITAT MANAGEMENT COMPONENT

The BLM boasts some impressive numbers when it comes to fish habitat. We manage 168,699 miles of stream habitat, 2,436,991 acres of lakes and 172,746 acres of reservoirs. In the Pacific Northwest, 13,000 miles of the BLM-managed streams are vital to annual runs of salmon and steelhead, as are more than 100,000 miles of stream in Alaska. In the Southwest, the BLM waters feature species such as bass, catfish and pupfish. Some of the small desert ponds and springs harbor populations of fish species found nowhere else in the world.

In the BLM's fiscal year 1991, $3.6 million was spent on fisheries and related riparian habitat management. That was up by almost 70 percent from the previous year, but still falls short of what is needed for an effective bureauwide program. The various fishery initiatives underway are summarized below.

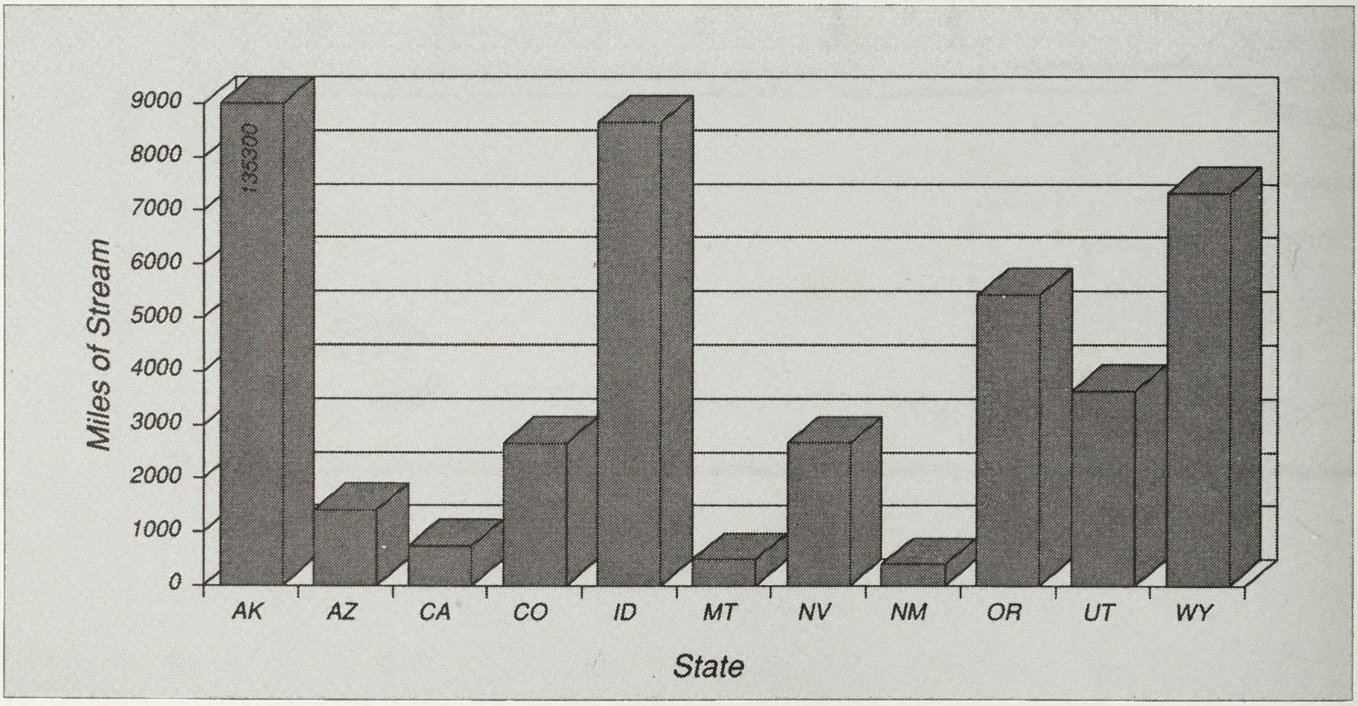
Anadromous Fish Habitat

GOAL 1

"Provide and enhance the fisheries potential of anadromous fish streams in the Pacific Coast drainages so as to further contribute to the public use and enjoyment and to the economic stability of coastal communities and to the recreational and commercial fishing industries."

The BLM is implementing its plan for "Anadromous Fish Habitat Management on Public Lands." This plan outlines an ambitious 12-year program that when fully implemented will increase production of adult salmon and steelhead by about 172,000 fish annually in Idaho, Oregon, California and Alaska, with a return of $2.50 for every dollar invested.

Miles of Fishable Stream on BLM Land by State.



Source: WFIS/FY90 Public Land Statistics Data Base (3/15/91).

From 1986 to 1990 in Oregon, 42 of the 84 proposed projects have been completed. This includes 2,118 in-stream structures, 42 off-channel habitat development projects, 193 rearing pools and 13 fish passage projects. BLM biologists have noted that research has found two to four times more juvenile coho in project areas that in untreated areas of the same stream. Monitoring has also shown significant increases of one year old steelhead. There were also minor increases in one year old cutthroat trout. Here is a sample of some of the projects being implemented.

★ In the Kobuk District of Alaska, numerous field tours and media interviews have been conducted to publicize fishing potential on streams feeding Norton Sound. The BLM manages virtually every major stream in the area. The recently completed Norton Sound HMP covers 6 million acres.

★ A 3,400 foot long channel has been constructed along the Trinity River in California to enhance anadromous fish rearing habitat.

★ The Medford District completed a coho salmon project on Deer Creek, a tributary of the Illinois River. The Middle Rogue Chapter of the Northwest Steelheaders assisted the BLM in placing over three dozen log and boulder structures in the creek to improve habitat.

★ The Medford District staff completed the Brewster Gorge fish passage project, which allows spawning steelhead and coho salmon to extend another 17 miles upstream.

★ The Coos Bay District completed the Tioga Creek Anadromous Fish Enhancement project. This project consisted of placing numerous large boulders into the creek to improve spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead.

★ The Roseburg District restored 5.5 miles of Wolf Creek in a cooperative effort of the BLM, Oregon Department of Wildlife, the Umpqua Fishermen's Association, and Roseburg Lumber Company. Coho salmon will benefit through new pool habitats.

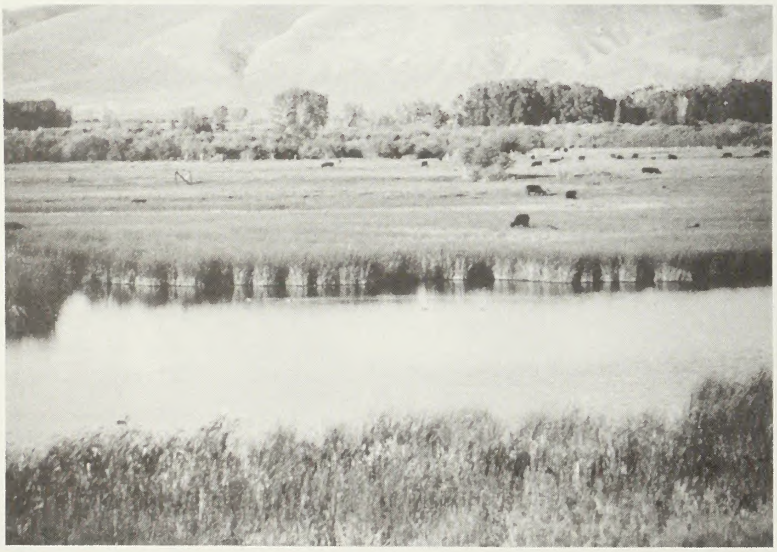
In May 1991, the BLM completed its Anadromous Fish Habitat Management Plan for the Columbia and Snake River Basins. This plan, prepared for the Pacific Northwest Salmon Summit, integrates proposed activities for management of anadromous fish habitat in the Idaho, Oregon, and Washington portions of the basin managed by the BLM. This plan outlines a dynamic series of actions to help restore spawning and rearing habitat for the various populations of salmon, steelhead, and sea-run cutthroat that now face extinction.

Resident Fish Habitat

GOAL 2

"Manage habitat for resident species that spend all or part of their life cycles on public lands and that are of high economic, social, or scientific value to local communities or the Nation. This includes both warm and cold water resident species, such as bass, rainbow and cutthroat trout, and fishes in the desert Southwest."

Resident fish habitat is another aspect of the BLM's efforts on behalf of fish resources. There is a wide assortment of other species and habitats that occur on BLM lands. The springs and small ponds on low-elevation deserts in Idaho mark one end of the habitat range while alpine lakes are on the other. The only known populations of several fish species occur in small pools on isolated BLM lands. The BLM's goal is to keep these diverse habitats healthy and producing, no matter what their size or use might be.



Lush riparian areas provide key breeding habitat for fisheries and migrating waterfowl. Riparian corridors also provide nesting and breeding areas for hundreds of migratory nongame bird species.

Progress has been made in implementing sists of findings, recommendations and strategies for strengthening the BLM's fisheries program and on-the-ground management of fish resources. Some examples of recent accomplishments include:

★ Fish habitat for bass and other warmwater species in Arizona's Yuma District has increased as a result of sinking unsold Christmas trees into the backwaters along the lower Colorado River.

★ In Minnesota, the Milwaukee District and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources are developing joint recreational fishing conservation displays for islands in Vermillion Lake.

★ In Idaho, willows were replanted along the Big Wood River by Shoshone District staff to increase fisheries habitat, and the BLM Idaho State office completed a cooperative agreement with Trout Unlimited to improve trout habitat in southwestern Idaho.

★ In Montana, along the Big Hole River, habitat for the Montana arctic grayling was improved through a cooperative project with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, the Forest Service, and the Montana Natural Heritage Program. This species is the only form of stream-dwelling grayling in the lower 48 States.

★ In Montana, a dam in the Lewistown District was restored on Butch Reservoir, a popular recreational fishing site. An engineering study of the Wild Horse Reservoir proposed for development as a recreational fishery was completed, as was construction of the 4.5 surface acre Fritzner Reservoir in northeastern Fergus County. The 50-acre foot Chapman Coulee Reservoir for fisheries and waterfowl habitat was also completed.

Recreational Fishing

The BLM's participation in National Fishing Week activities in 1991 increased substantially over events commemorating this occasion in previous years. In 1991, nearly 3,700 people participated in 30 events bureauwide. This compares to 1990, when the BLM hosted 21 events that drew 2,865 participants. Most BLM State Offices expanded festivities by offering free camping opportunities to all participants.

Many BLM State Offices featured special events for disabled or disadvantaged anglers in response to a national agreement signed with Amerifish Corporation this year. "Fishing Has No Boundaries" was a familiar theme at many functions. Of particular merit are the Yuma District's fishing clinic for special olympians ages 10 to 35 and the Eastern States Office's fishing event for disadvantaged children from the Washington, D.C. area. At both events, children, supervised by the BLM employees and/or fishing guides, boarded boats and went fishing. For many of these children, this was their first fishing experience.

Special Olympics athletes learn the fun of fishing on the lower Colorado River from BLMers and volunteers during the celebration of National Fishing Week.

Fishing for bluegill in cattail coves at Squaw Lake, Special Olympics athletes were assisted by Yuma District BLMers and other volunteers.

"Fishing Has No Boundaries" became an initiative close to the hearts of BLMers and the BLM volunteers who participated in celebrating 1991 National Fishing Week.

Although teaching fishing ethics to special competitors was rewarding, the BLM employees developed an acute awareness of the difficulties disabled Americans experience who struggle to meet daily challenges. The "Fishing Has No Boundaries" initiative held new meaning for the BLM's Yuma District employees who learned the importance of providing disabled accessible facilities on public lands.

Temperatures of 101 degrees and kamikaze horseflies did not dampen the enthusiasm of the Special Olympians or the BLMers who started early on the banks of Squaw Lake. Each athlete was given a fishing lesson and outfitted with a rod and reel donated by local area K-Mart and Wal-Mart discount stores, and Zebco fishing tackle manufacturers. Traveling by pontoon boat down the Colorado River, the Special Olympics athletes fished in the cattail coves in the backwater areas of Squaw Lake. The wonderful day of fishing culminated with the presentation of National Fishing Week Certificates of Accomplishments for all the participants.

This project was supported by the Arizona Game and Fish Department; the Yuma Rod and Gun Club which provided life vests for the athletes; the California Fish and Game which provided a free fishing day; the Yuma County Special Olympics Area Director; and Special Olympics volunteers whose dedication and support to the Special Olympics program made this special fishing activity a "reel" fishing opportunity.

Riparian Management

GOAL 3

"Manage riparian areas to achieve a healthy and productive condition for long-term benefits and values, in concert with the range and watershed programs."

Proper riparian habitat management is a critical component of FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 to improve fisheries management in many western states. The BLM's Fish and Wildlife Program has been an active leader in working to meet the Director's goal of achieving proper functioning condition of 75% or more of the riparian habitat on public land by 1997.

Fisheries are benefitted by increasing riparian vegetation growth to shade and cool surface waters and by adding woody debris to streams to create valuable pool habitat which catch sediments, remove them from the water column, and decrease erosion from streambanks. In 1991, the BLM pursued aggressive restoration of riparian areas in practically all areas of the West. For example:

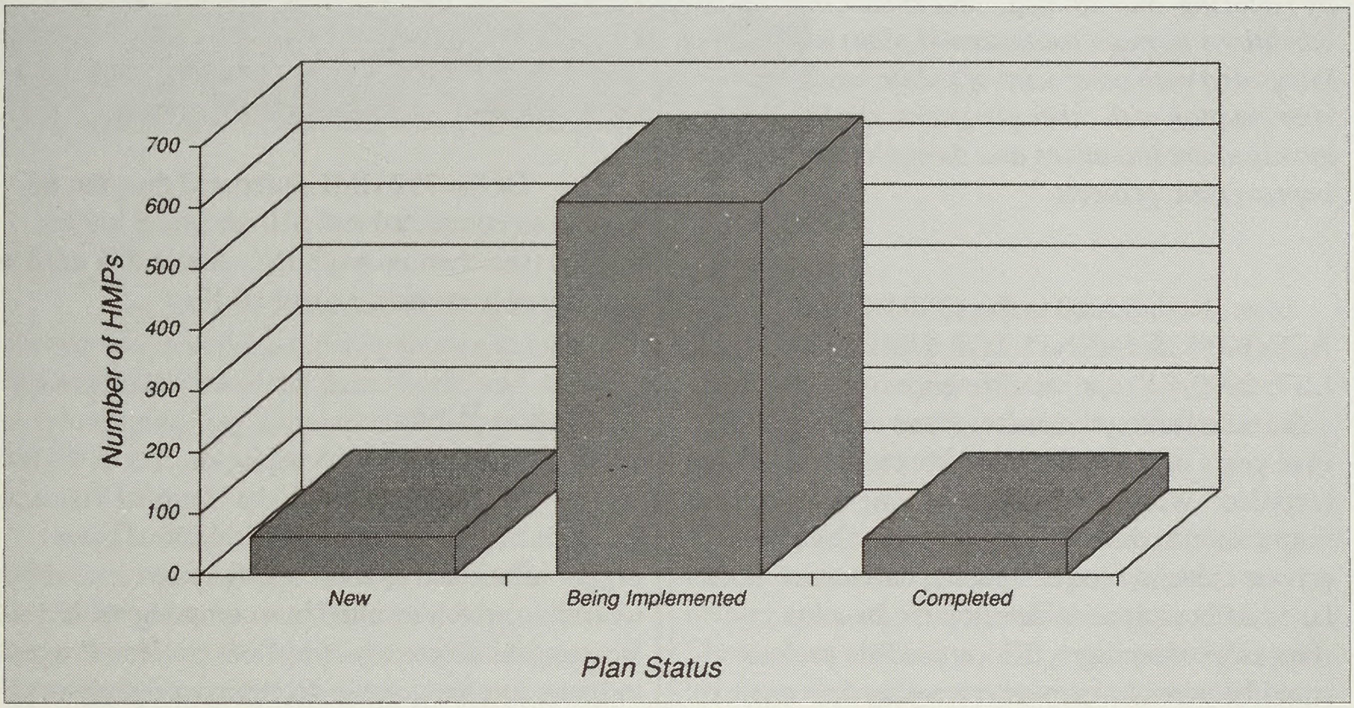
★ In Arizona, Boy Scout volunteers planted hundreds of cottonwoods along the San Pedro River in the San Pedro National Riparian Conservation Area. In the Empire-Cienega riparian area, more than 150 students from grades 5-9 planted cottonwood seedlings and learned how to protect riparian habitats from erosion. In the Yuma District, 15 acres of non-native salt cedar along the lower Colorado River were cleared and replanted with cottonwood and mesquite trees.

★ In California, riparian revegetation projects were conducted along Cedar Creek, in the Susanville District, and along the Mattole Estuary in the Ukiah District.

★ In Nevada, the riparian corridor along the Marys River got a substantial boost through modification of grazing patterns and elimination of grazing from the most sensitive streamside zones.

San Pedro River, San Pedro Riparian Area, Safford Arizona District.
Photo by Jerry Sintz

Status of HMPs Bureauwide.



Source: WFIS/FY90 HMP Statistics Data Base (8/1/90).

Data is based on FY90 statistics except for Nevada and Lakeview and Medford Oregon districts.

WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT COMPONENT

FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 contains five goals under this program component. Highlights of accomplishments under each goal are outlined below.

Goal 1

Overall Habitat Management - *"Ensure optimum populations and a natural abundance and diversity of wildlife resources on public lands by restoring, maintaining, and enhancing habitat conditions through management plans and actions integrated with other uses of public lands through coordination with other programs, the States, by management initiatives and through direct habitat improvement projects."*

As indicated in the 1990 REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000, fish and wildlife improvements require time for implementation and completion. Five years may elapse before concrete results are recorded. Without a substantial long-term commitment from the BLM, its partners, Congress, private citizens, and the public, habitat on public lands will continue to deteriorate. In some instances, abandoning a fish or wildlife project could be potentially more damaging than not starting a project initially.

Thus, planning is crucial for success. Planning is the foundation upon which the BLM's habitat work is conducted. Resource Management Plans (RMPs) outline long-term objectives for large geographic areas and balance fish and wildlife requirements with other existing resource uses. The RMPs are the framework for developing and implementing land use activities.

Fish and Wildlife Activity Plans are the building blocks for the more general goals identified in the RMPs. The Fish and Wildlife Activity Plans include Habitat Management Plans (HMPs), Coordinated Resource Management Plans (CRMPs), and management plans for Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

Inventory and monitoring are also important aspects of the BLM's fish and wildlife program. Sound management decisions are formed from baseline information, monitoring, and documentation of the changes in the resources.

Of the 732 HMPs prepared thus far, 63 have been completed and 610 are being implemented (see chart on page 15). About $64 million is required to complete these HMPs.

Nongame Birds

In December 1990, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the BLM, various other organizations and agencies participated in a workshop which resulted in a comprehensive Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Program to focus attention on the declining populations of nongame birds that nest in the United States and winter in Central and South America. This interagency strategy is now known as PARTNERS IN FLIGHT - AVES DE LAS AMERICAS. This cooperative effort was the catalyst for expediting the completion of the BLM's Nongame Bird Habitat Conservation Strategy Plan.

Montana BLM District Manager Jim Owings welcomes BLM volunteer Don Stoecker of the Pintlar Audubon Society to begin avian inventories on public lands.
Photo by Bob Jones

The BLM's Nongame Bird Strategy Plan incorporates several distinct strategies to maintain viable populations of nongame birds, and to reverse diminishing populations of those species that are in serious jeopardy.

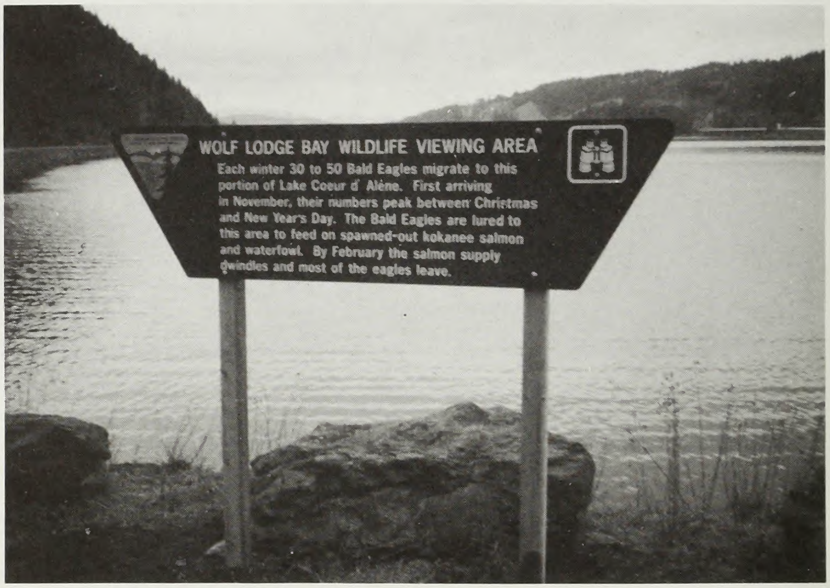
The BLM is involved in many forms of habitat management that directly and indirectly benefit nongame birds. We are working extensively to restore critical riparian-wetlands areas in the western United States. Management activities entail planting native trees and riparian vegetation, fencing riparian-wetlands areas and spring sites, properly designing grazing systems, constructing nest boxes and nesting platforms, as well as a variety of other activities benefitting nongame bird habitat and associated wildlife resources.

The BLM has closed and rehabilitated off-highway vehicle routes in several sensitive areas resulting in significant improvement of habitat in some areas such as Great Falls Basin and San Sebastian Marsh in California.

Many field level plans for managing habitat have also been developed and are now being implemented to benefit nongame birds. These plans are for specific geographic areas and habitats, and outline on-the-ground actions for managing priority nongame bird species and habitats. Without question, nongame birds species are receiving greater focus in our management efforts.

Watchable Wildlife

In December 1990, progress on providing opportunities for the American people to watch wildlife took a quantum leap forward when the BLM, with certain other Federal agencies, four national conservation organizations, and the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, representing all 50 State wildlife agencies, joined forces. This expansive partnership provides a framework of cooperative activities necessary to develop, implement, maintain and enhance a Watchable Wildlife Program on Federal and State lands. The BLM led the development of this interagency agreement signed in December 1990 to establish viewing sites at the field level. The BLM's Watchable Wildlife National Strategy Plan, the first of any agency or organization, is nearing publication.


WOLF LODGE BAY WILDLIFE VIEWING AREA
Each winter 30 to 50 Bald Eagles migrate to this
portion of Lake Coeur d' Alêne. First arriving
in November, their numbers peak between Christmas
and New Year's Day. The Bald Eagles are lured to
this area to feed on spawned-out kokanee salmon
and waterfowl. By February the salmon supply
dwindles and most of the eagles leave.

Wolf Lodge Bay Wildlife Viewing Area in the BLM's Coeur D'Alene District is one of the most heavily visited wildlife viewing areas in the Idaho Panhandle with more than 12,000 visitors during the November 20 through January 15 bald eagle viewing season.

Nationwide, enthusiasm for this initiative is tremendous. Cooperatively produced Wildlife Viewing Guides have already been completed for Oregon, Montana, Utah and Idaho as part of a 50-State series. The guides identify the best wildlife viewing opportunities within each State. In the first four guides, 67 of the 422 sites listed are on BLM land. Other guides in the series are nearing completion, while the inventory and evaluation process is still underway in some States. To date, 159 BLM officially designated or otherwise suitable areas have been identified, and more sites will be designated in the future. A few examples include:

★ The establishment of a Watchable Wildlife viewing area by the Medford District of Oregon at Galesville Reservoir highlighting osprey and waterfowl viewing and educational opportunities.

★ The dedication on June 8, 1991, of the Deans Creek Elk Viewing Area, in Oregon in the BLM Coos Bay District. This is one of the premier Roosevelt elk viewing sites in the Pacific Northwest and has significant numbers of waterfowl species as well. This was a cooperative effort with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

★ The dedication on October 19, 1990, of Colorado's first Wildlife Viewing Area, the Georgetown Wildlife Viewing Area, featuring bighorn sheep that browse on nearby public lands.

Estimated Number of Big Game Animals on Public Lands.

Species	Est. Number Lower 48 States		Est. Number Alaska	
	1988	*1990*	*1988*	*1990*
Antelope	295,690	351,646	0	0
Bear (black, grizzly or brown)	6,314	6,774	8,700	4,300
Bison	300	369	420	400
Caribou	0	0	320,000	634,000
Dear (whitetail, mule)	1,449,308	1,501,688	0	0
Bighorn sheep	19,956	19,513	3,200	1,250
Elk	142,870	167,842	0	0
Javelina	11,900	13,245	0	0
Moose	3,305	3,796	40,000	32,600
Mountain goat	345	367	350	350

Source: WFIS/FY90 Public Land Statistics Data Base (03/15/91)

Animal Inn

Animal Inn is a nationwide initiative to educate the public about the importance of dead and fallen trees to fish and wildlife. Nearly a third of all forest creatures depend on snags and other dead or destroyed trees for their survival. In June 1991, the BLM signed a national agreement with the Forest Service, American Forest Council, National Forest Products Association, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, National Association of State Foresters and the National Woodland Owners Association. This agreement sets the stage for future partnership efforts to preserve selected trees for wildlife.

Mining Claim Markers

When our field monitoring revealed a problem with small birds and other animals getting trapped inside perforated plastic pipe being used as mining claim markers, we implemented a policy directing field offices to work with appropriate State agencies and miners to eliminate the associated mortality. Although the marking of mining claims is under the jurisdiction of State laws which vary across the country, the BLM has taken actions to preclude the future use of perforated and uncapped pipes in all States through its State-by-State coordination policy.

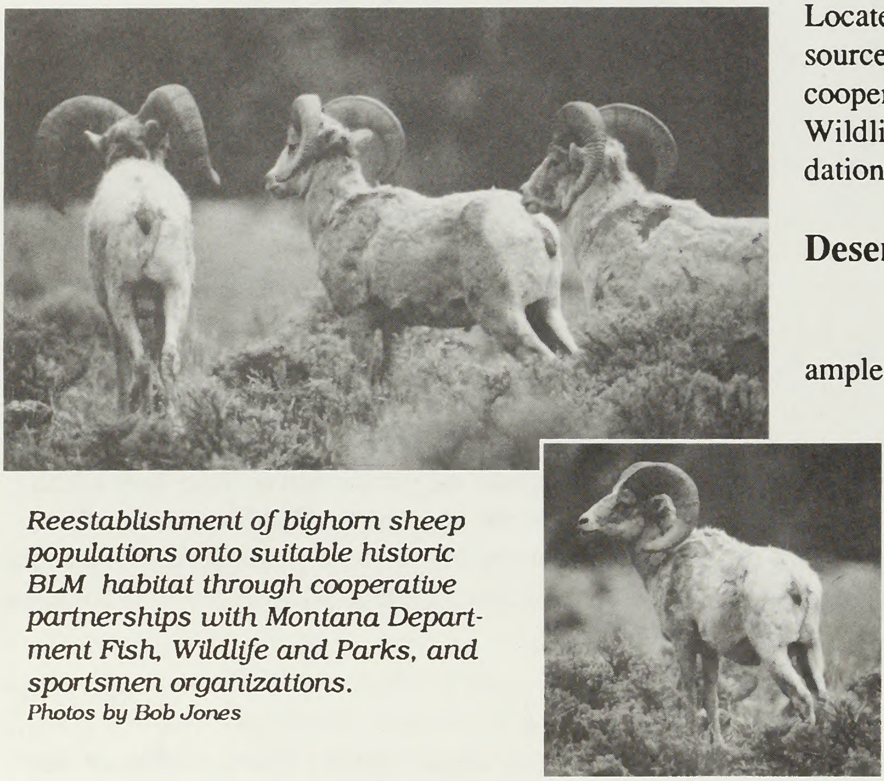
GOAL 2

Big Game/Upland Game - *"Ensure that big game/upland game species on the public lands are provided habitat of sufficient quantity and quality to sustain identifiable economic and/or social contributions to the American people."*

In early 1991, an interdisciplinary team comprised of representatives of western State wildlife agencies, selected big game organizations and BLM managers and biologists was organized to formulate a national strategy for managing big game habitat. Of particular concern is minimizing potential conflicts with livestock grazing and mining.

Even in the absence of this plan, considerable management efforts are underway in many areas of the West. Examples of current on-the-ground management include:

★ 20,000 bitterbrush seedlings were planted in Idaho's Shoshone District to rehabilitate mule deer and elk winter ranges destroyed by wildfire.



Reestablishment of bighorn sheep populations onto suitable historic BLM habitat through cooperative partnerships with Montana Department Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and sportsmen organizations.
Photos by Bob Jones

★ Elk were reintroduced into the Peavine Mountain Area in the Medford District of Oregon.

★ A cooperative initiative with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation will provide valuable information for elk populations and habitat as it relates to forest resource management of Federal, State and private lands. This is the first attempt in Montana to address elk needs over large forested areas.

★ The development of new water sources for antelope in cooperation with the Arizona Department of Fish and Game and the One Shot Antelope Club will enhance habitat conditions and encourage antelope to repopulate once occupied historic habitats in that State.

★ A prescribed burn conducted in Colorado will enhance forage conditions on 600 acres of winter and transition habitats for elk. Located in the Glenwood Springs Resource Area, this project was completed in cooperation with the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Forest Service.

Desert Bighorn Sheep

Desert bighorn sheep is an example of a species that has benefitted and thrived because of FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000.

Since the implementation of our Rangewide Plan in late 1987, more than 115 new water sources have been established; 39 new areas have been transplanted with bighorn sheep; 26 herds have been augmented with transplants; 10 new habitat areas have been identified; and, 5,160,000 acres of bighorn sheep habitat have been inventoried. The BLM manages 8,809,000 acres or 80 percent of historic sheep habitat of which 58 percent has been inventoried.

During 1991, the BLM in cooperation with State wildlife agencies and bighorn sheep conservation groups established 10 new water sources; reintroduced bighorns into 6 historic habitat areas with transplants; augmented 6 herds with transplants; and inventoried 2,333,711 acres of sheep habitat.

During a June 1989 symposium in Reno, Nevada, on Bighorn-Domestic Sheep Diseases, a Western Wildlife Disease Cooperative was proposed to be affiliated with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The Western Association agreed to the proposal and the Disease Cooperative will be established in 1992. This is timely because disease complications for desert bighorn sheep have been prolific in the past. It is important that BLM biologists apply the most current wildlife disease findings in on-the-ground management actions.

An example of ongoing work is in Oregon, where BLM teamed with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODF&W) and the Fish and Wildlife Service to reintroduce California bighorn sheep to three areas in Oregon's Sheepshead Mountains, located approximately 100 mile southeast of Burns, Oregon. Fifteen bighorn sheep were placed within the Diablo Peak Wilderness Study Area, 15 sheep were taken to Coleman Rim, and 11 bighorns were flown to Sheep Rock. Before their arrival, guzzlers funded by BLM, ODF&W and the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep were installed by volunteers from the Eugene Chapter of the Izaak Walton League.

Upland Game Girds

More than 23 species of upland game birds, including several species of desert quail, sage grouse, chukars, and wild turkeys are found on BLM lands. A national strategy plan for managing habitats for these species will be available in 1992. Concerted on-the-ground management is already underway. For example,

★ In New Mexico, Marathon Oil Company is constructing three water units in habitat for Least Prairie Chickens as a mitigation measure for disturbance caused by oil and gas drilling. Wild turkeys were reintroduced into the Laguna Seca Special Management Area in New Mexico.

★ In Idaho, more than 14,250 acres of sage grouse habitats were seeded to rehabilitate an area burned by wildfire in the Thorn Creek area of the Bennett Hills Resource Area.

★ In Idaho, Pheasants Forever, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and BLM inventoried 20 isolated tracts to determine habitat improvement opportunities for upland game birds including dry land planting for nesting cover and riparian plantings for winter cover.

★ In Oregon, sharp-tailed grouse were reintroduced in the Vale District. This cooperative effort also involved the ODF&W, The Nature Conservancy, and the Forest Service. Efforts like this will aid reestablishment of this species in key portions of its historic range.

GOAL 3

Waterfowl Habitat Management - *"Help perpetuate a diversity and abundance of waterfowl for the Nation by managing the wetlands and other habitats on the public lands that are of importance to the maintenance of this international resource."*

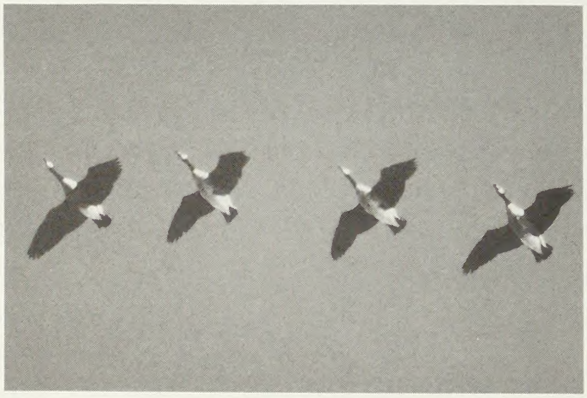
Under FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000, the major thrust of the BLM's waterfowl habitat management is to manage 20 million acres of wetlands. A strategy plan completed in 1988 is being implemented to expedite management of 225 key waterfowl areas identified in that plan. Implementation of this plan is also enabling the BLM to expand its role in wetland conservation and implementation of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

Ducks Unlimited (DU) and the BLM are working on several joint habitat improvement projects. The BLM's Wetland Environments Today and Tomorrow (WETT) Strategy Plan documents the framework for implementing on-the-ground management cooperation between DU and the BLM. This partnership will promote and enhance the public's understanding of the crucial role wetlands play in benefitting American society. The final version of WETT will be available in 1992.

Projects with DU are being implemented in five States totaling over $1,045,000. In Alaska, a 5-year agreement between DU and the BLM for wetland inventory and mapping is nearly completed and implementation has begun. Some specific examples of other ongoing work include:

★ In Montana, the BLM cooperated with DU in a dam reconstruction project in the Lewistown District that created an additional 40 acres of aquatic habitat and 100 acres of nesting habitat.

★ In Idaho, the BLM worked with DU and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to construct 11 miles of fence, which will enhance waterfowl nesting and brooding habitat along the South and Henry's Forks of the Snake River. Also, the Thousand Springs/Chilly Slough area was selected by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council to receive a $125,000 grant for acquisition of adjacent wetlands habitat. The Nature Conservancy will also transfer to the State of Idaho an 18 acre headwater spring parcel which is crucial to the management and protection of this key waterfowl habitat area.



Many species of waterfowl are frequent visitors to wetland habitats on BLM lands within the Pacific and Central flyways.

★ In Oregon, the Warner Wetlands of the Lakeview Resource Area benefitted from cooperative management and implementation of wetland restoration. To date, 10 miles of dikes and 5 headgates have been installed with the cooperation of The Nature Conservancy, the ODF&W, the Izaak Walton League and DU. The North American Wetlands Conservation Council awarded the BLM $215,000 for wetlands management in this key area.

Goal 4

Raptor Habitat - *"Provide suitable habitat conditions for birds of prey on public lands through the conservation and management of essential habitat components, including habitat for prey species, especially in areas where birds of prey concentrate during some period of the year, or in important habitats where populations are suppressed."*

The BLM's 1989 Raptor Strategy Plan identified 223 key raptor areas encompassing 13.5 million, widely-scattered and distinct acres of public lands. Protecting these unique habitats is the key to maintaining the populations of 45 raptor species inhabiting the public lands in the West. Of equal concern is sustaining populations of prey species.

In 1990, the BLM, in conjunction with Boise State University, The Peregrine Fund, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and certain other public and private organizations established the Raptor Research and Technical Assistance Center (RRTAC) in Boise, Idaho.

The RRTAC is coordinating a multi-million dollar, 5-year research project to assess the habitat alteration in the Snake River Birds of Prey Area (SRBOPA). The study is designed to evaluate the impacts of military exercises in the Idaho National Guard's Orchard Training Area (OTA), as well as to accumulate information on the effects of wildfire and grazing on the area. Five component studies form the research project.

Study 1 relates to raptor distribution and the use of the OTA. The RRTAC's staff employed BLM's Geographic Information System and Geographic Positioning System to stratify, select, and locate random sampling points for Study 1. A Boise State University study team observed raptor behavior at these points and quantified differences inside and outside the study areas.

Study 2 is a radiotelemetry study of raptor habitat use and foraging behavior. A private consulting firm under contract with the U.S. Army is conducting this study to quantify differences in raptor home range and habitat use inside and outside the OTA. Prairie falcons are the primary emphasis. The RRTAC supplied considerable technical support during the study's development, as well as field assistance to the Study 2 team in 1991.

Study 3 is assessing raptor nesting densities and productivity both in the Snake River Canyon and on the adjacent uplands.

Study 4 is analyzing the Townsend's ground squirrel. A team from Colorado State University, under BLM contract, is consolidating data on ground squirrel densities, survival rates and productivity, behavior and food habitats.

Study 5 is investigating the relationships between military training, wildlife and livestock grazing on raptor and primary prey habitats.

RRTAC is also conducting cooperative studies on global warming to document trends and relationships in weather, fire patterns and vegetation changes for the SRBOPA. Efforts are also underway to assess the influence of roads on passerine bird populations, and to monitor raptor and raven nesting on power lines. Monitoring data will be used to recommend guidelines for utility companies and resource managers for managing existing and future powerlines to enhance raptor nesting densities and productivity. Pacific Power and Light Company is a key cooperator.

The BLM field offices also have conducted a variety of projects to inventory, monitor or enhance raptors and their habitats. Examples include:

✭ In New Mexico, the BLM conducted an evaluation of raptor habitat along the Rio Grande Gorge and developed monitoring activities.

✭ In Idaho, the Burly District, in cooperation with RRTAC and Boise State University, inventoried 20,000 acres of active ferruginous hawk nest sites and collected information on productivity of successful nests.

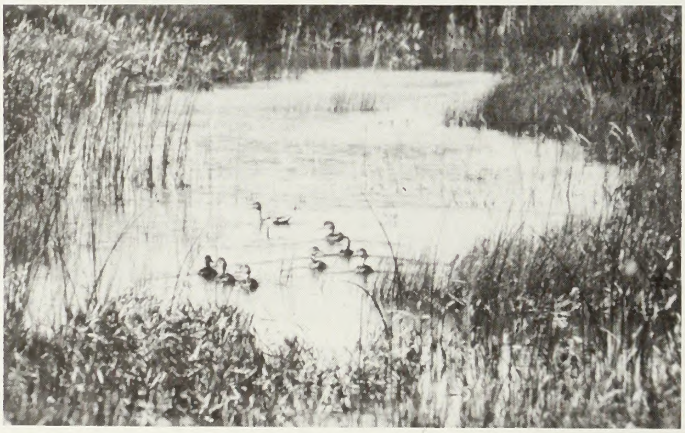
✭ In Arizona's Kingman Resource Area, an inventory and monitoring effort is underway to determine Mexican black hawk use of riparian habitat. One of these areas being monitored supports the highest density of nesting black hawks in the United States.

GOAL 5

Riparian Management - *"Riparian areas are the bands or strips of green near streams, springs, lakes and other sources of water. These areas are among the most important lands managed by the BLM. In some areas, more than 80 percent of the wildlife depend on riparian areas for water, food, and shelter. Not only do healthy riparian areas support wildlife populations, they stabilize soils, improve water quality, provide for more recreational opportunities and increase forage for livestock and wildlife."*

Such areas also provide vital habitat for fish. Examples of ongoing management activities are presented in the Fisheries Habitat management component of this report.

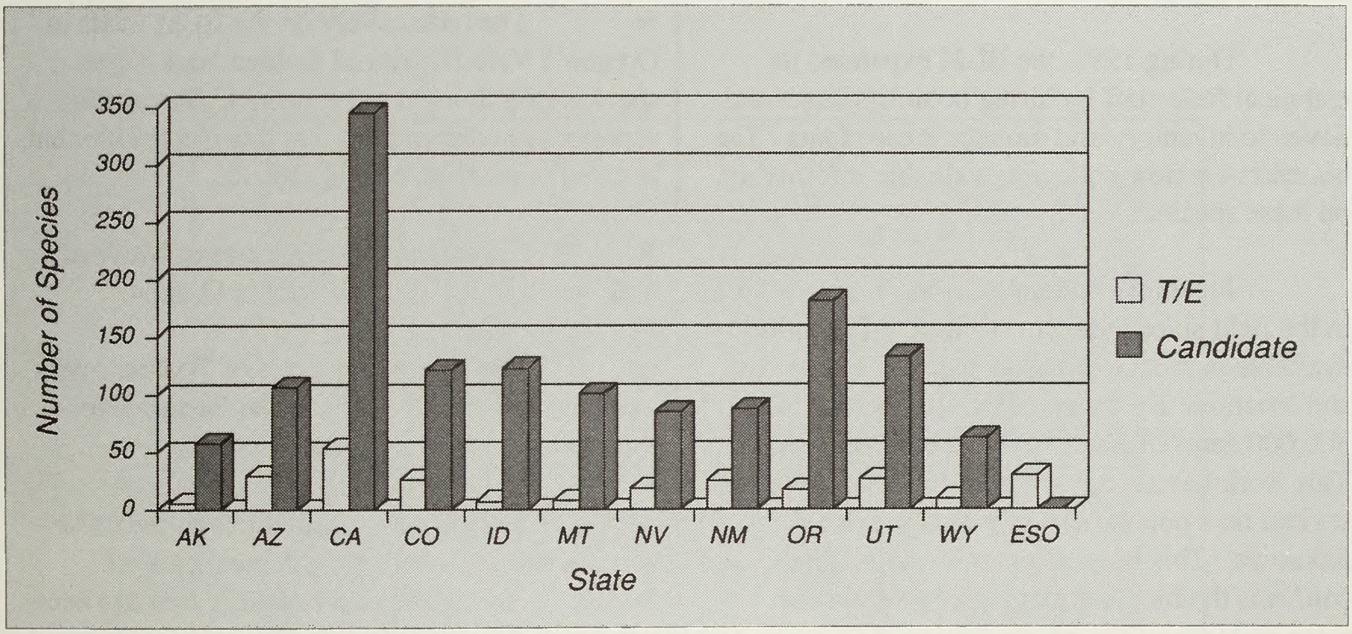
The BLM's ongoing management of riparian areas leads to greatly improved biological diversity.



Breakdown of Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species, 1991.

Plants	Fish	Mammals	Birds	Amphibians	Reptiles	Invertebrates	Total
56	39	29	23	4	10	4	**165**

Threatened, Endangered and Candidate Species by State (Fiscal Year 91).



Source: BLM Washington Office

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES COMPONENT

The BLM's goals for threatened and endangered species are outlined in FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000. Populations of those species will be increased to historic levels consistent with BLM land use plans. Available funds are spent on species that present special problems or that seriously affect other resources. The desert tortoise and northern spotted owl are two such examples.

Special Status Plants

Some 56 Federally listed threatened or endangered plant species occur on BLM land, while another 1,102 species are candidates for listing. A national strategy plan for managing special status plant species is nearing completion.

During 1991, the BLM expanded its technical field staff by hiring botanists in several States to inventory and monitor these plants. The botanists are now collecting valuable information on these species.

Inventory continues to be the major focus in the field since there is very little information available in most areas as to species occurrence and location. By the end of 1991, more than 300,000 acres of inventory will be completed. This work has already resulted in the discovery of several new populations of plants previously unknown. This is excellent information and confirms the fact that many plant populations are more stable than previously believed. Some examples of recent efforts revealed:

★ Several new populations of the Carmel Valley mallow near King City, California.

★ Four new populations of the San Benito evening primrose in California.

★ The occurrence of 3 new populations of the candidate species Ivesia shellyi in south-central Oregon nearly 60 miles from the previously known population.

★ The occurrence of a new population of the candidate species Thelyodium eucosmum near Prineville, Oregon, doubling the previously known population size.

★ The occurrence of 19 new populations of the BLM sensitive Limnanthes gracilis near Roseburg, Oregon.

★ The occurrence of one new population of Caluchortus coxii near Myrtle Creek, Oregon.

★ The rediscovery on the BLM lands in Oregon's Vale District of Golden buckwheat, a species long thought to be extinct. Succeeding surveys have determined that this is a healthy but isolated population of this species.

★ Several new populations of Mulford's milk-vetch in the Vale District in Oregon.

★ Ten new populations of Todsen's pennyroyal on the BLM lands in the Sacramento Mountains of New Mexico.

★ Several new populations of the endangered Kuenzler's hedgehog cactus, on Fort Stanton, marking the first time this area has been surveyed.

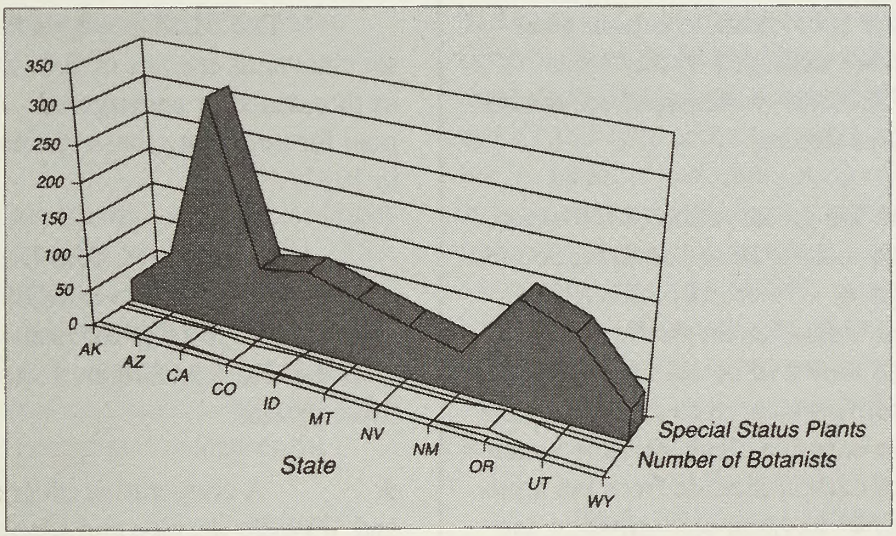
★ Locations of several new populations of Harrington's penstemon and Wetherly's astragalus in Colorado's Grand Junction District.

Inventory and monitoring of special status plants is increasingly being accomplished in partnership with diverse organizations such as the inventory of the North Spit, a unique geologic feature on the Oregon Coast in the Coos Bay District. The BLM and The Nature Conservancy are collaborating in several States to complete inventories on rare plants and plant communities. These inventories provide invaluable information for day-to-day management and for assessing special plant and animal habitat. A monitoring study of the Gypsum scalebroom is underway in the Caballo Resource Area of New Mexico in cooperation with New Mexico State University. Such inventories provide invaluable information for day-to-day management and for assessing special plant and animal habitat. The Center for Plant Conservation is working with the BLM to complete a population study of the Todsen's Pennyroyal, a Federally endangered plant on the BLM lands in New Mexico.

New Mexico's Caballo Resource Area has also developed a plan for habitat management of the Gypsum scalebroom, a candidate species for Federal listing. The plan includes provisions for grazing management, water development, herbicide use and fencing requirements to protect existing habitat. Gypsum scalebroom occurs only in the gypsum dune habitat in New Mexico and Texas. The New Mexico Native Plant Society and New Mexico State University are collaborating with the BLM on this effort.

During 1991, BLM cooperated in an annual survey of the Federally endangered Sneed's pincushion cactus. As a consequence, the New Mexico plant recovery team stated that the cactus is now abundant and could soon be removed from the endangered species list.

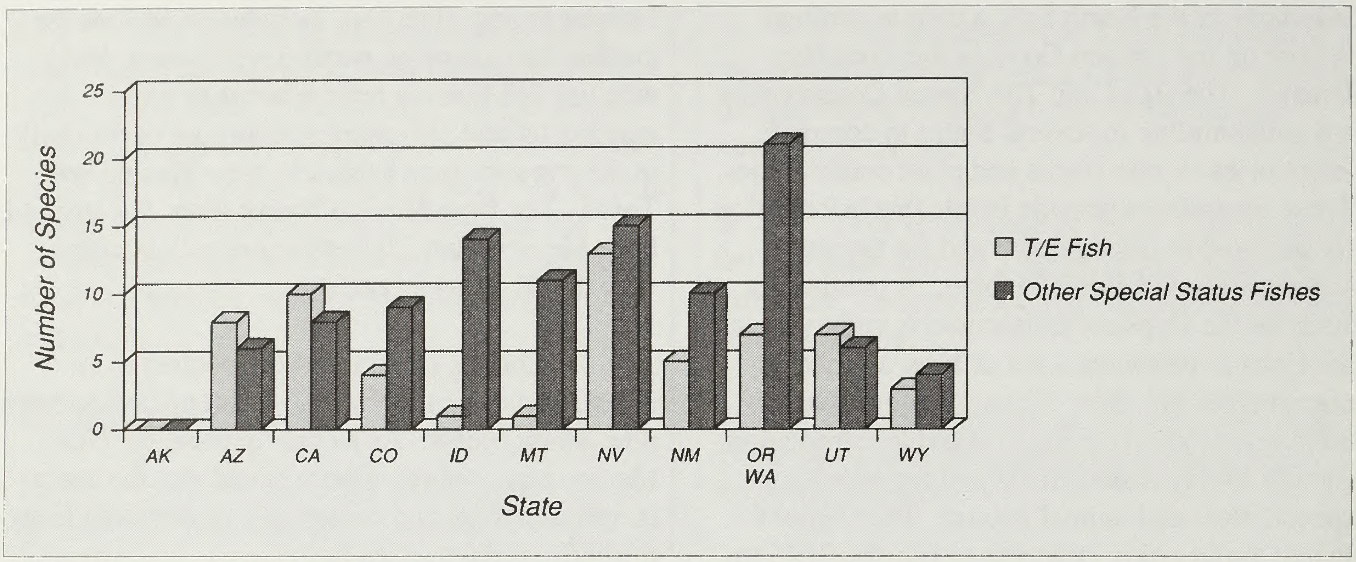
Special Status Plants Versus Botanists by State.



Source: Wildlife personnel data base.

Special Status Plants include T/E, Candidate, and State Sensitive.

Special Status Fishes on Public Lands (Fiscal Year 91).



Source: BLM Washington Office.

Our secret BLM gardens harbor more than 114 different plant communities. Together, they represent more ecosystems and biological communities than are managed by any other Federal agency. The most widespread are tundra and various forms of desert.

To ensure the preservation of biological diversity, the BLM must protect rare plant communities from extinction. The BLM is striving to restore all plant communities on public lands to sufficient health so they will be able to perform their vital ecosystem services such as: filters and holders of water to ensure a clean, reliable water supply; removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and restorer of oxygen; soil retention and increased fertility; and providing forage for livestock and habitat for wildlife.

Threatened and Endangered Fish

The BLM manages habitat for 113 special status species of fish, including 39 listed as threatened or endangered. A national strategy plan for managing these species was completed in 1991.

During 1991, four BLM States - Idaho, Arizona, New Mexico and Oregon - completed several field projects for restoring and enhancing threatened and endangered fisheries. Some of these include:

★ A cooperative project with the Fish and Wildlife Service and Idaho State University for the Bruneau Hot Springs Snail and three different species of mollusks.

★ Habitat improvement projects for the Redband Trout in partnership with the Idaho Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

★ Habitat improvement at Mesquite Springs in Arizona for the transplant of the desert pupfish.

★ Surveys of stock ponds and the Cienega Creek watershed for exotic fishes competing with the Gila top minnow in cooperation with the Arizona, Game and Fish Department. These surveys' results produced no new threats to top minnow populations.

★ Reestablishing the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout in Warm Springs Canyon, New Mexico.

★ Implementing the Warner Sucker recovery plan in a partnership with The Nature Conservancy and the Fish and Wildlife Service. Severe drought has reduced water levels necessitating the removal of suckers from Hart Lake in Oregon and their placement in protected areas. Volunteers were instrumental in the continuous monitoring of the species' adaptation to its changed environment.

Spotted Owls

The northern spotted owl has continued to receive considerable attention during 1991. The vast majority of habitat for these owls occurs in northern California and western Oregon. Since being listed as Federally threatened throughout its range in 1990, the bird continues to receive extensive media coverage and management attention.

California continues to conduct inventories and monitor the 13 known territories on the BLM lands in the Arcata Resource Area. In Oregon, all BLM districts in the western portion of the State are heavily involved in a variety of projects including basic inventories, demographic studies, long-term monitoring, timber sale clearances, and consultations with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The combination of increased inventory efforts and a good reproductive year resulted in BLM biologists tallying record numbers of the northern spotted owl on the BLM lands. Additionally, the expansion of density-demographic studies in five western Oregon districts increased owl count accuracy. The BLM's improved inventory techniques are also being utilized by the Forest Service and the National Park Service to maintain the consistency of counts.

In 1991, inventory and monitoring on BLM Oregon lands revealed 486 pairs of northern spotted owls that produced 3,329 young. The BLM biologists banded 695 birds in 1990 including 442 adult and subadult birds, as well as another 253 juveniles. Since 1983, nearly 2,000 northern spotted owls have been banded by BLM biologists.

By banding the owls, biologists are able to study the lifespan, population dynamics, locations and movement of the species in western Oregon. The BLM biologists also hope to learn more about the habitat requirements of the species and its ability to adapt to habitat modifications. Future banding and monitoring efforts to be completed during the next ten years will attempt to track owl population trends to acquire a better understanding of the various populations. The information will enable BLM to design timber sales and other resource management activities for minimal impact on the continued viability of the owl.

With the proposed Federal listing of the Mexican spotted owl in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and southern Utah as threatened, the BLM has begun assessing the occurrence and abundance of habitats that support this species. In 1991, nearly all efforts focused on extensive inventories of high probability sites (screening). More intensive surveys will concentrate in those areas where the owl has been located. The Mexican spotted owl occupies much different habitat than the northern spotted owl. Therefore, habitat and survey methods used for the northern spotted owl may require modification.

Desert Tortoise

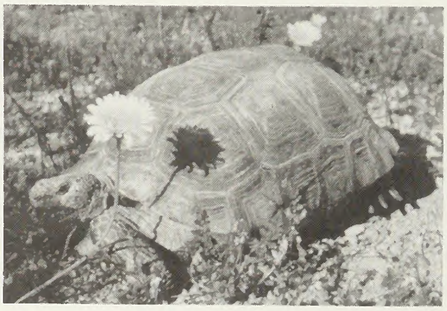
The BLM has continued implementation of its Rangewide Plan for Managing Habitat of the Desert Tortoise in the four State area of Arizona, California, Nevada and Utah. To build the database necessary to protect and enhance this candidate species, each of the States has categorized habitat according to its importance, continued to monitor desert tortoise populations and habitat, and conducted research on such diverse topics as: eating habits; nutritional requirements and food availability; baseline health profiles; effects of livestock grazing on desert tortoise habitat; effects of raven predation on tortoise populations; causes of respiratory infection; and blood profiles of healthy and sick tortoises.

The BLM has continued to consult closely with the Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that all BLM actions comply with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act. Where damage to desert tortoise habitat has occurred, or is expected to occur from various activities, the BLM has been mitigating negative impacts. To illustrate, in Arizona and California, the BLM has required the construction of tortoise proof fences and the installation of culverts and bridges to aid tortoises in crossing the roads. In Nevada, the BLM has cooperated with the city of Las Vegas to compensate for the loss of tortoise habitat caused by housing construction. In California, the BLM, in cooperation with other agencies and private landowners, is developing a cooperative regional management plan for the Western Mojave Desert. The plan involves 10 cities and towns, 4 counties and 12 State and Federal agencies and private groups. In addition, significant modifications in livestock grazing procedures are occurring in some desert tortoise habitat areas.

Finally, the BLM is participating in the development of a recovery plan which the Fish and Wildlife Service is spearheading. The BLM's Rangewide Plan and on-going efforts to safeguard and recover this species are valuable building blocks for the recovery plan.

State Resource Area Soil Scientist Eddie Garner inspects a burrow - home of the Desert Tortoise. Disturbance of soil at burrow entrance, lack of annual vegetation, and debris indicate an inhabited burrow. Abandoned burrows become shelters for other desert creatures such as snakes, lizards, rodents, and burrowing owls.

Stateline Resource Area Soil Scientist Eddie Garner and Wildlife Biologist Jeanie Cole examine soil for texture and water retention. The quality of these components enable the Desert Tortoise to dig and maintain its burrows.



The Desert Tortoise is the largest plant-eating reptile in the southwestern United States. Its existence is threatened by loss of habitat through urban development, an often fatal flu-like disease, increased predation by ravens, and pet collecting.

Black-footed Ferret

Black-footed ferrets are one of the rarest mammals in the world. These members of the mustelid family, which includes weasels, skunks, otters and badgers, depend on prairie dogs for food and their burrows for shelter. To fully comply with the Endangered Species Act, the BLM must consider the habitat of those prairie dog colonies that are potential sites for black-footed ferret reintroduction.

By managing colonies for black-footed ferrets, the BLM is simultaneously managing the habitat for other species. The mosaic of colonies within a prairie dog complex has greater biological diversity than neighboring land without colonies, and has led to the recognition of the vast importance of what is now being referred to as the Prairie Dog Ecosystem. More than 100 vertebrate species live in prairie dog ecosystems.

The BLM, working with other concerned organizations, developed a black-footed ferret reintroduction plan and initiated intensive evaluation of potential reintroduction sites in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and Montana. Over 75,000 acres of potential habitat was inventoried in 1991 in preparation for additional releases in 1992 and beyond. The first release of captive bred ferrets into the wild occurred September 1991 in Shirley Basin, Wyoming.

An interagency team of biologists in Montana has been conducting one-on-one interviews with more than 100 private landowners on possible reintroduction sites in Montana. By building private landowner support, BLM resource managers have been successful in mitigating concerns and improving the requirements of the recovery efforts for black-footed ferrets. We are encouraged by the results of this public cooperation. Restoration of black-footed ferrets in Montana would mark the achievement of a goal that BLM biologists have been working toward since the discovery of ferrets in Meeteetse, Wyoming, in 1981.

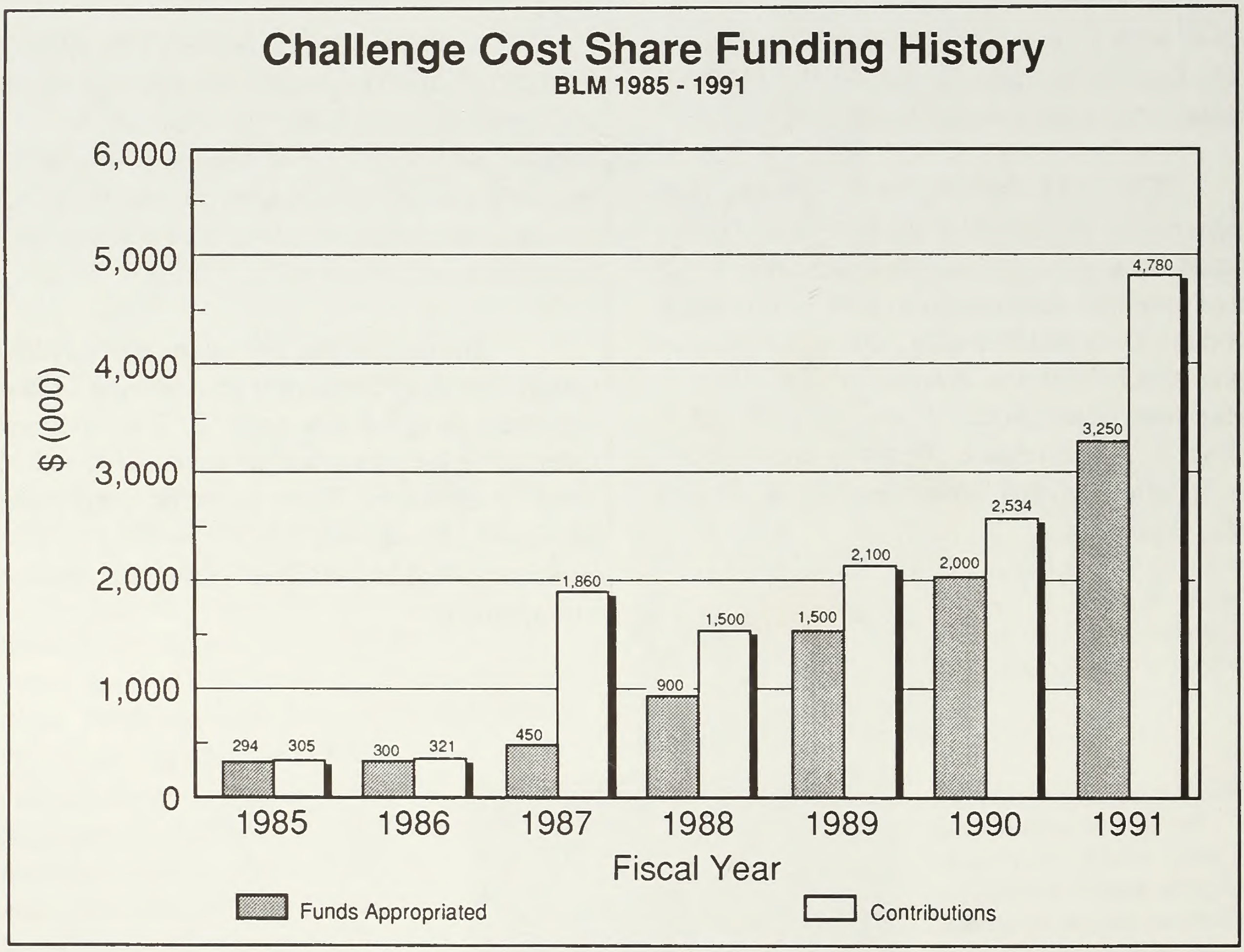
PARTNERSHIPS

Since implementation of FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 began, we have strengthened our traditional ties with State fish and wildlife agencies and other Federal agencies. We have opened the door for expanded partnerships with new organizations to achieve the sweeping goals of our national strategy plan.

During the last two years, we have signed national level agreements with a number of diverse organizations as listed on page 32. We are currently formulating long-term Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with others. These partnership agreements provide the framework for completing projects benefitting fish and wildlife habitat and resource management.

Partial Listing of Organizations Participating in National Agreements with BLM

American Fisheries Society
American Forest Council
Amerifish Corporation
Center for Plant Conservation
Defenders of Wildlife
Ducks Unlimited
Foundation for North American Wild Sheep
International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
The Izaak Walton League of America
Mule Deer Foundation
National Audubon Society
National Association of State Foresters
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
National Forest Products Association
National Rifle Association
National Wildlife Federation
National Wild Turkey Federation
Peregrine Fund
Pheasants Forever
Quail Unlimited
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
The Nature Conservancy
Times-Mirror Magazines Conservation Council
Trout Unlimited



Another tangible aspect of these various partnership agreements is BLM's Challenge Cost Share (CCS) Initiative. The BLM earmarks project money and State agencies, conservation organizations, or private citizens donate matching funds and/or supply "in-kind" material and labor. The expansion of this initiative is outlined below.

Our partnerships and cooperative efforts toward improving wildlife and fish habitat are some of the most outstanding facets of the implementation of FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000. In 1991, examples of such exemplary cooperation abound. The success of the Challenge Cost Share Initiative is summarized in a separate report entitled "The Challenge Cost Share Initiative."

One excellent example of such partnership efforts involves two quail habitat improvements projects along Walker Ridge within BLM's Clear Lake Resource Area in California. This area received a face lift from members of the Sacramento Chapter of Quail Unlimited in early March 1991. Chapter volunteers cooperated with BLM biologists in clearing thick brush invading an existing fiberglass wildlife guzzler which had become overgrown since its installation in 1984. Brush cutters and chain saws slashed pathways through the thick scrub oak to facilitate access to the guzzler for deer and quail. The cut brush was then stacked into piles to provide escape cover for the quail using the guzzler.

Repairing the water system at Cold Springs meadows was a more difficult task. The system, inoperative for several years, supplied water for a nearby campground and to a wildlife drinker that had been damaged by vandalism. Utilizing a ditch witch, a trench was dug and new water lines were laid from the spring source to both the campground and the wildlife drinker. The damaged walls of the drinker were rebuilt and the water lines reconnected so that the drinker could be used by wildlife again.

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The Bureau has long recognized that its most important resource is the people who carry out the day-to-day operations . . . from the field biologist in the resource area office to the program leaders and managers in the State and national offices. An important component of multiple use is missing without a sufficient, dedicated, and well-trained workforce to conduct studies, contribute to land use plans, develop and implement activity plans, conduct on-the-ground management, and carry out the diverse activities and initiatives.

To address the human needs within the wildlife and fisheries program, a team of specialists, managers, and outside experts was assembled in 1986 to develop a career management plan. The intent was to design and implement a career development program to build a productive and satisfied workforce.

Training is one area in which we have made improvements. The Phoenix Training Center (PTC) has played a key role in this regard. Some samples of training progress to date are summarized below:

★ In support of riparian restoration efforts and in cooperation with landowners, PTC held three sessions of Coordinated Riparian Area Management (approximately 263 participants) in Colorado, Alaska and Nevada. The pilot course for Advanced Riparian Management was also scheduled.

★ To enhance wetland and waterfowl habitat work with Ducks Unlimited, PTC cooperated on a Waterfowl/Wetlands Management course in Alaska in August. Sessions for BLM employees in California and Alaska are scheduled for FY 1992. In addition, a pilot course for Riparian/Wetlands Ecological Site Classification was held in Arizona in May.

★ Initiated a Wildlife Economic and Productivity Analysis training package. This is an attempt to standardize methods for wildlife economic analysis and to place more focus on the need to conduct benefit-cost analysis for field projects. One session was held in Arizona at the BLM Statewide biologists meeting.

★ Implemented an Introduction to Fisheries Management course to support the objectives of maintaining/enhancing fisheries habitat bureauwide. Forest Service employees have also attended this course.

★ Implemented several courses relating to threatened and endangered species management objectives. The Management and Consultation course focuses on agency roles regarding the Endangered Species Act activities and compliance.

★ To enhance understanding of biological diversity, a new course, Meeting the Biodiversity Challenge, was conducted in 1991. The course is in line with the recently released Keystone Report concerning biological diversity. Design work for a technical staff version of biodiversity management and another course on Inventory/Monitoring of Special Status Plants is moving forward.

★ Implemented a Wildlife and Fisheries Information System (WFIS) course. An On-Line Help program and keyboard templates to assist biologists and other system users have been developed this year. Approximately 20 WFIS training sessions have been held bureauwide with some 150 biologists and botanists having received training in basic computer skills and data base operation. Continued emphasis is needed to get biologists and botanists "up to speed" on automated data management and use.

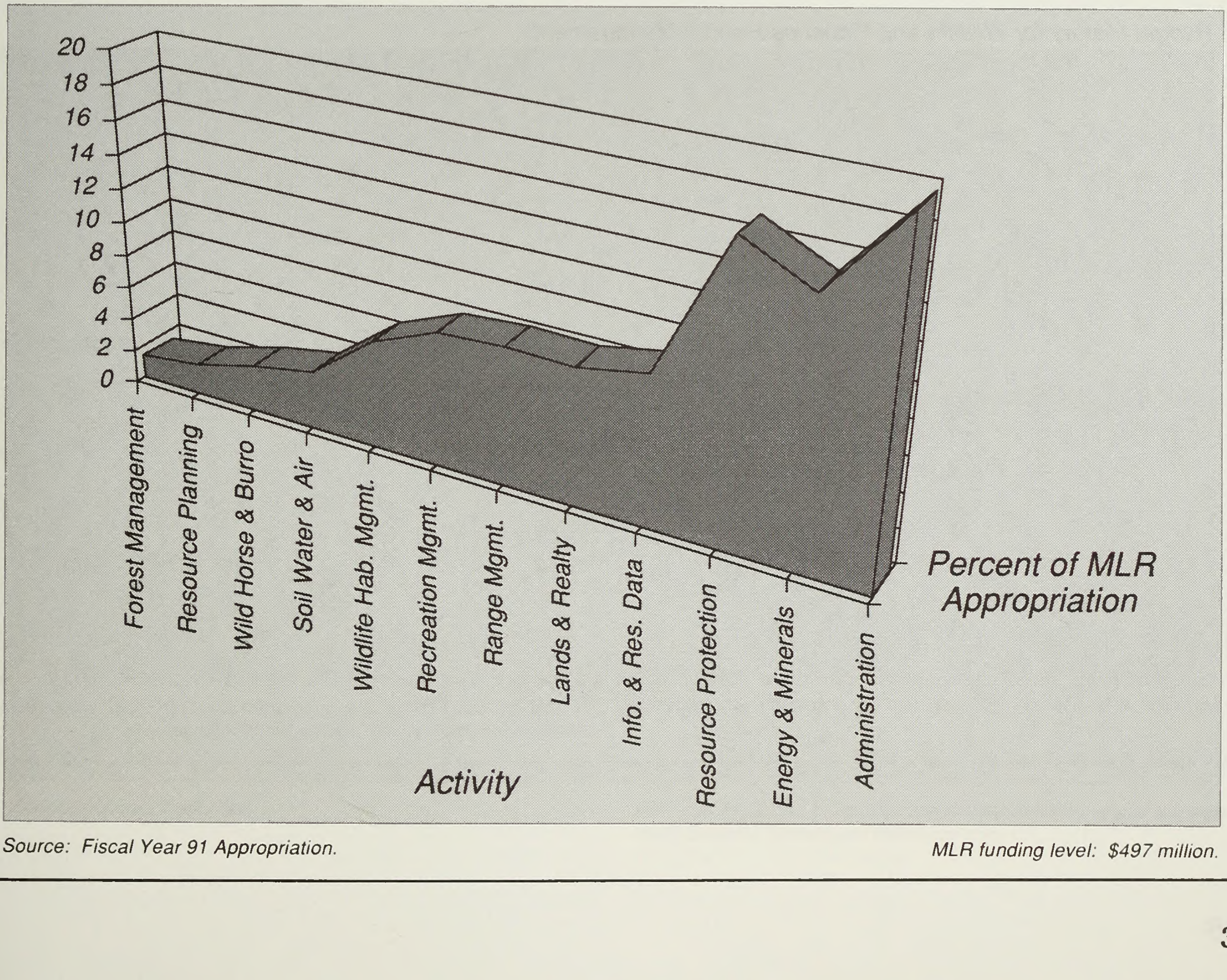
★ To enhance program management and leadership skills of biologists and botanists, PTC held one session on Introduction to Administration of Fish and Wildlife Programs. A second, more intensive course, Advanced Leadership and Administration of Fish and Wildlife Programs was held for the first time in Washington, D.C., in May. Some $15,000 in cooperative funding was contributed by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Some of BLM's best fish and wildlife biologists consequently have received a variety of leadership training skills to further their personal careers and improve the quality of existing leaders within the BLM.

Work on a Strategy Plan for Training Personnel in the BLM Wildlife and Fisheries Program continues and should be completed by the end of FY 1991. The plan will guide future training efforts.

FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 PILOT DISTRICTS

The BLM's Coeur D'Alene District Office in Idaho and the Phoenix District Office in Arizona were selected as FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 Pilot Districts. The intent was to establish "showcase" districts to demonstrate what can be accomplished when BLM Field Offices have adequate plans, funds, and staff available. It must be remembered that such district-wide implementation takes time. Both districts met or exceeded workload measures identified in their annual work plan. Specific accomplishments include: hiring new field biologists; completing various habitat projects such as prescribed burns to improve habitat; establishment of wildlife viewing areas; establishment of census plots for neotropical migratory birds; conducting field studies on upland birds and threatened and endangered species; improving habitat for fish; and expanding cooperative work with partners.

Fund Distribution for Management of Lands and Resources (Fiscal Year 91).



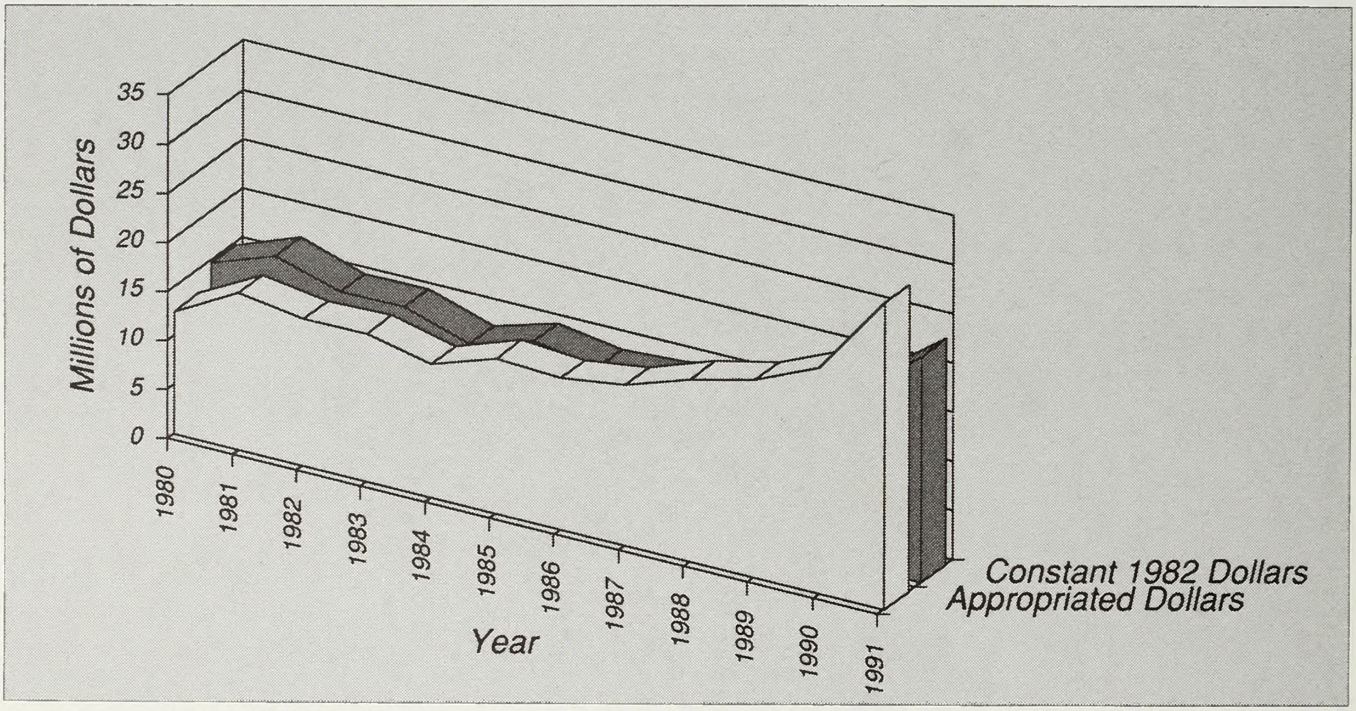
Source: Fiscal Year 91 Appropriation.

MLR funding level: $497 million.

SHOWCASE HABITAT MANAGEMENT AREAS

One of the major challenges confronting the BLM and its implementation of FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 is demonstrating to the American people the agency's ability to implement effective on-the-ground actions as identified in that national plan. As one means for demonstrating the BLM's commitment, Showcase Habitat Management Areas have been established. These areas, briefly described in Appendix A, will serve as tangible examples of the BLM's management on hundreds of other habitat areas that have not received the spotlight of a Showcase Area.

Budget History for Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management.



Source: Administration's Budget and Congressional Appropriations.

"Constant 1982 Dollars" are determined using the President's annual economic indicators, with 1982 equal to 100 percent.

BUDGET AND STAFFING PROGRESS

Budget

Since FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 was completed, the budget for the program increased from $16.3 million to $31.1 million. In FY 1991, that was 6.3 percent of the funds appropriated to the BLM under the category of "Management of Lands and Resources."

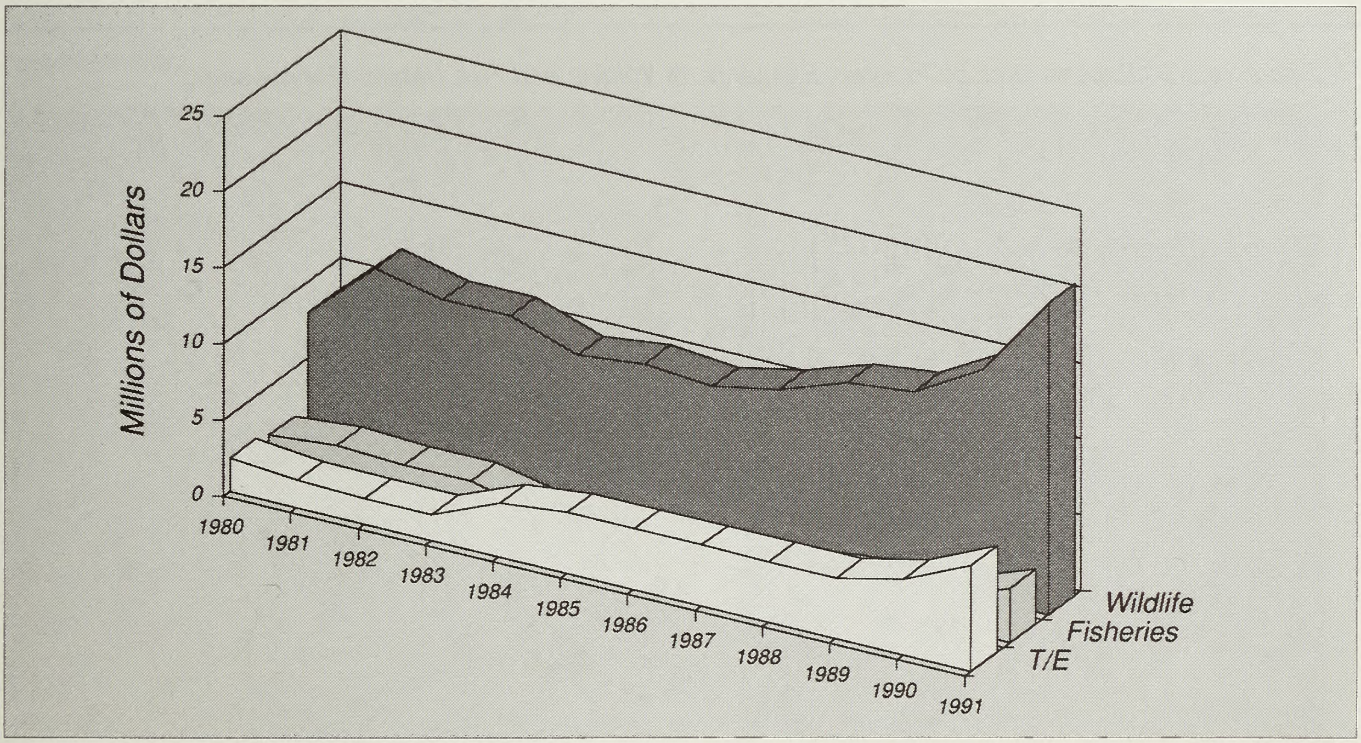
Of the $31.1 million allocated for fish and wildlife habitat management in FY 1991, $24.1 million was budgeted for wildlife and fish habitat management, and $7.0 million for threatened and endangered species.

Charts on pages 36 and 49 show expenditures for fish and wildlife habitat management and threatened and endangered species management components. As FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 is further implemented, on-the-ground activity expenditures are expected to increase.

Staffing

Staffing continues on the upswing. Emphasis continues on placing biologists and botanists at the field level.

Budget History by Program Component.



Source: Annual Work Plan

Fisheries funding is not tracked separately in the Financial Management System. Figures are estimates only.

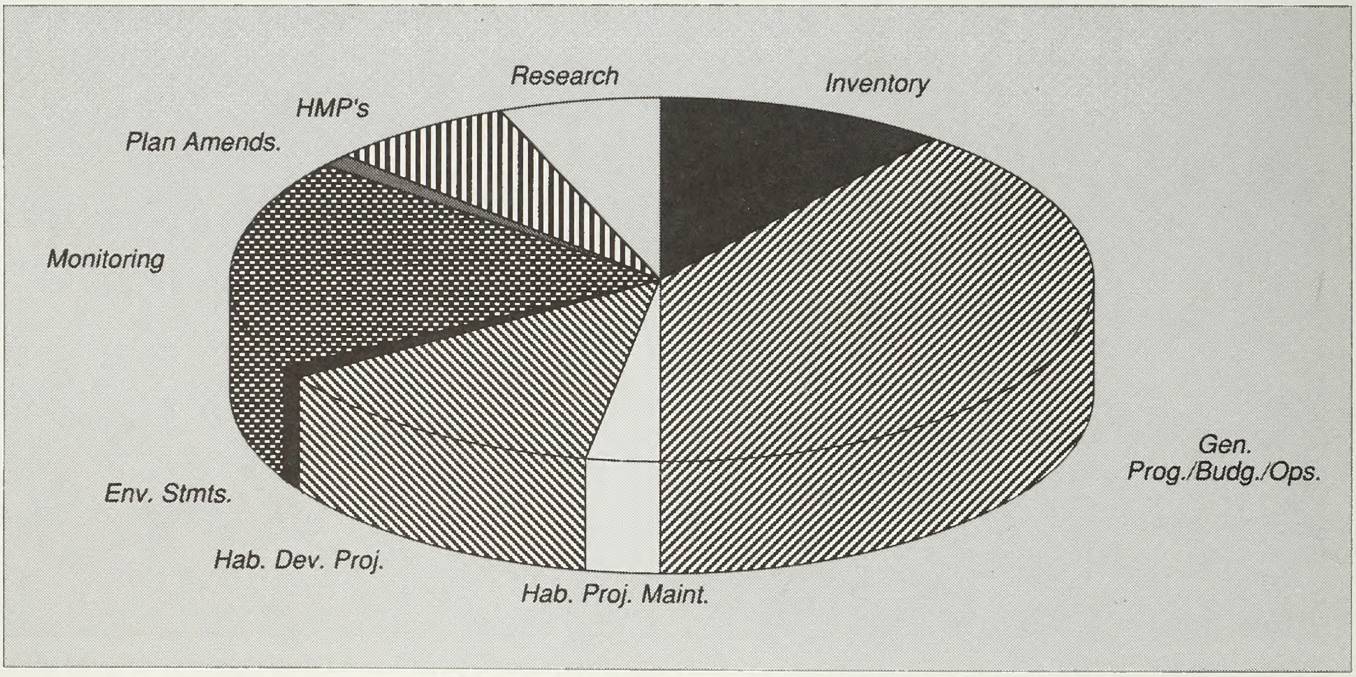
NEEDS——WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE IT ALL WORK

The BLM's 1991 budget and staffing is only about one-third of the amount needed to effectively implement FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000. Total projected implementation cost over the next decade is about $70 million per year.

The BLM can promise results with adequate funding:

- ★ Improved fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities.
- ★ Better access to public lands.
- ★ Faster recovery of threatened and endangered species.
- ★ Preventing the need for listing of some candidate threatened and endangered species though proactive management.
- ★ Increased economic benefits to local communities.
- ★ Sustained viability of important recreational species.
- ★ Enhanced recovery of riparian, stream and wetland habitats.
- ★ Expanded partnerships and contributions from outside sources.

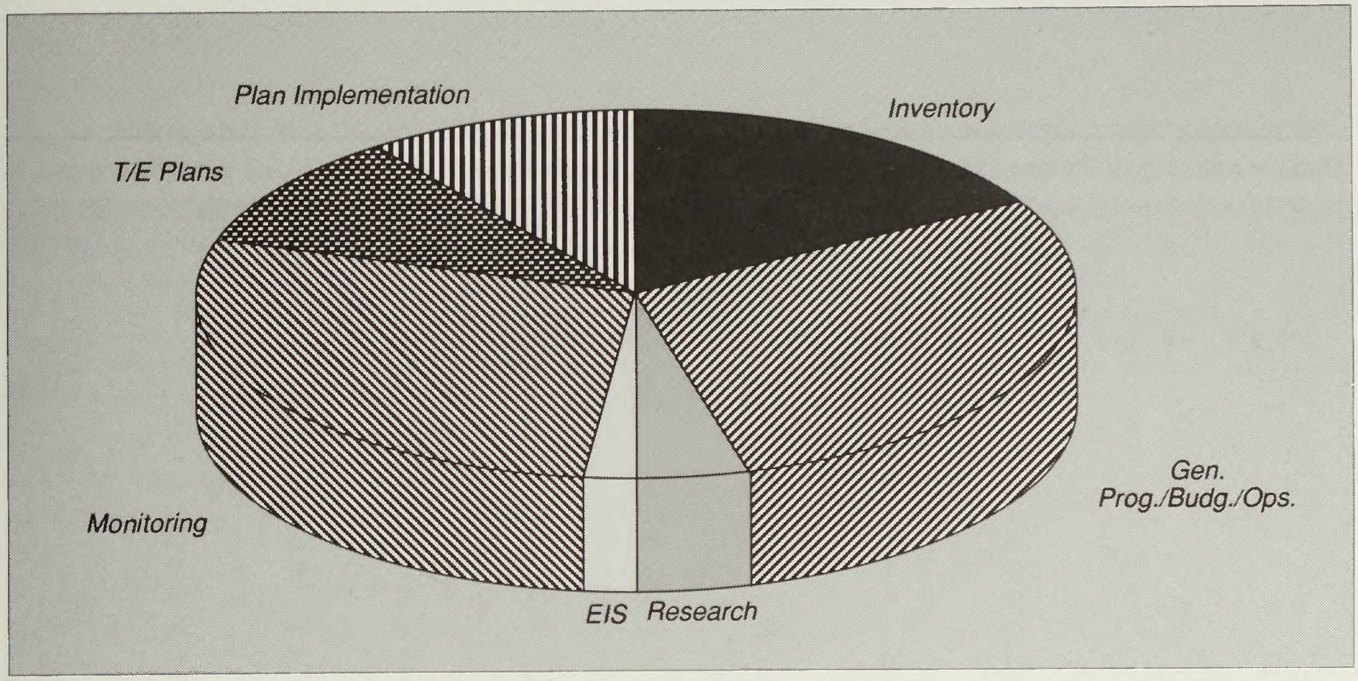
Fiscal Year 90 Expenditures by Program Elements for Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management.



Source: Financial Management System End-of-Year Report.

Expenditures based on fiscal year 90 budget of $17.5 million for 4351.

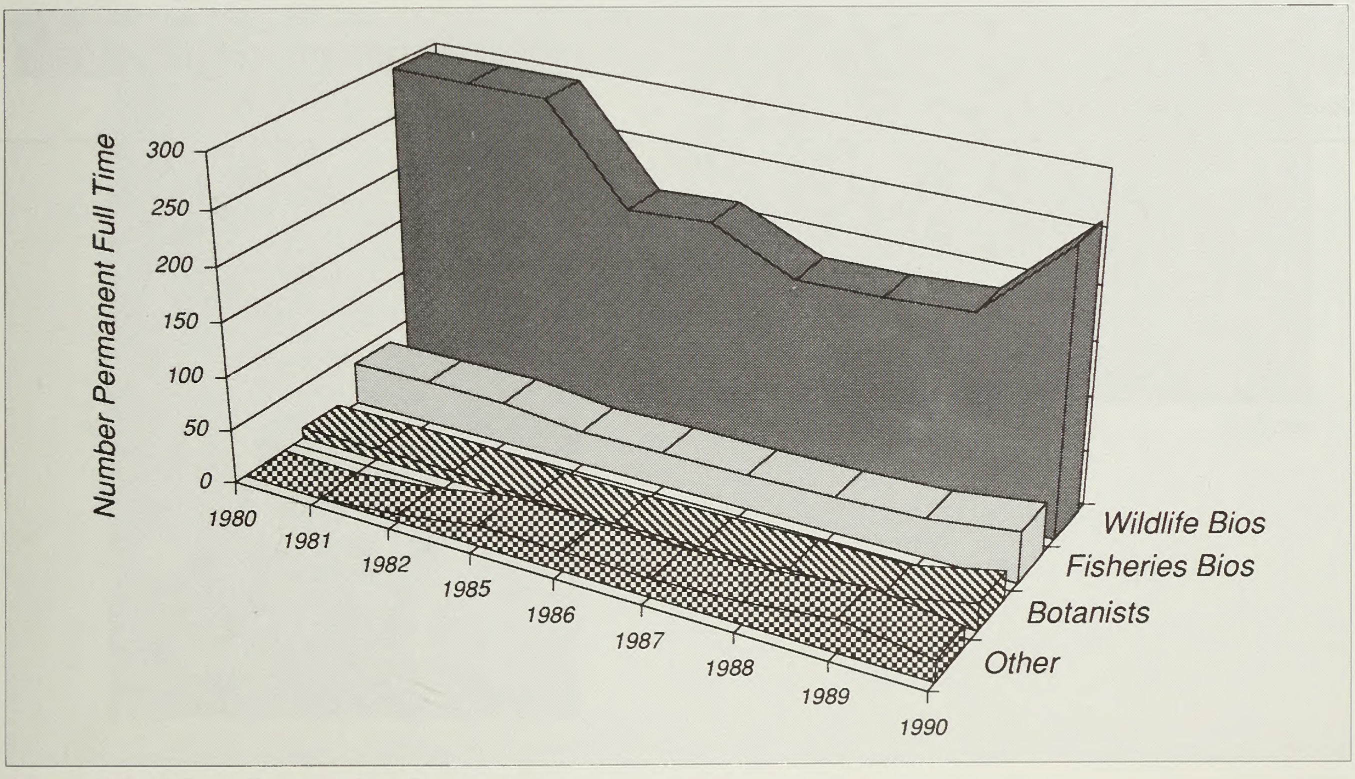
Fiscal Year 90 Expenditures by Program Elements for Threatened and Endangered Species Management.



Source: BLM Financial Management System
End of Year Report.

Based on fiscal year 90 total expenditures for T/E of $5.0 million.

Staffing History.



Source: WFIS/Program Personnel Data Base (8/1/91).

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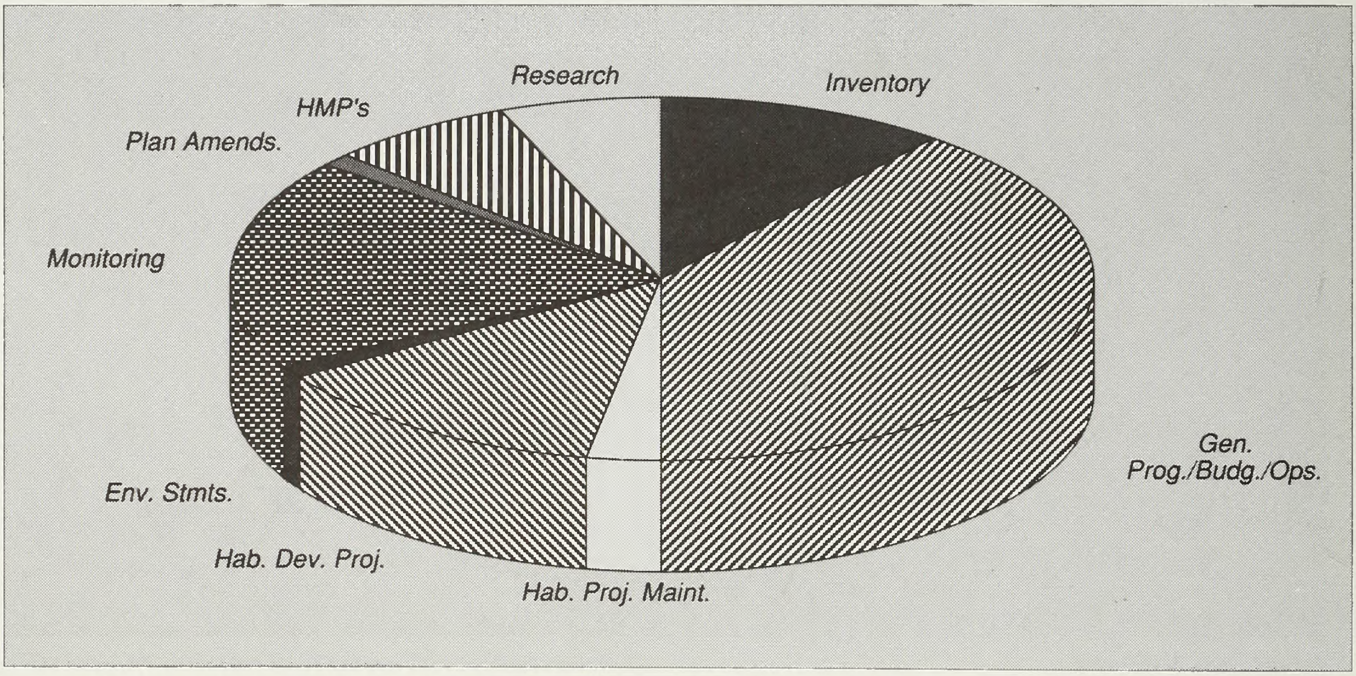

Source: Financial Management System End-of-Year Report.

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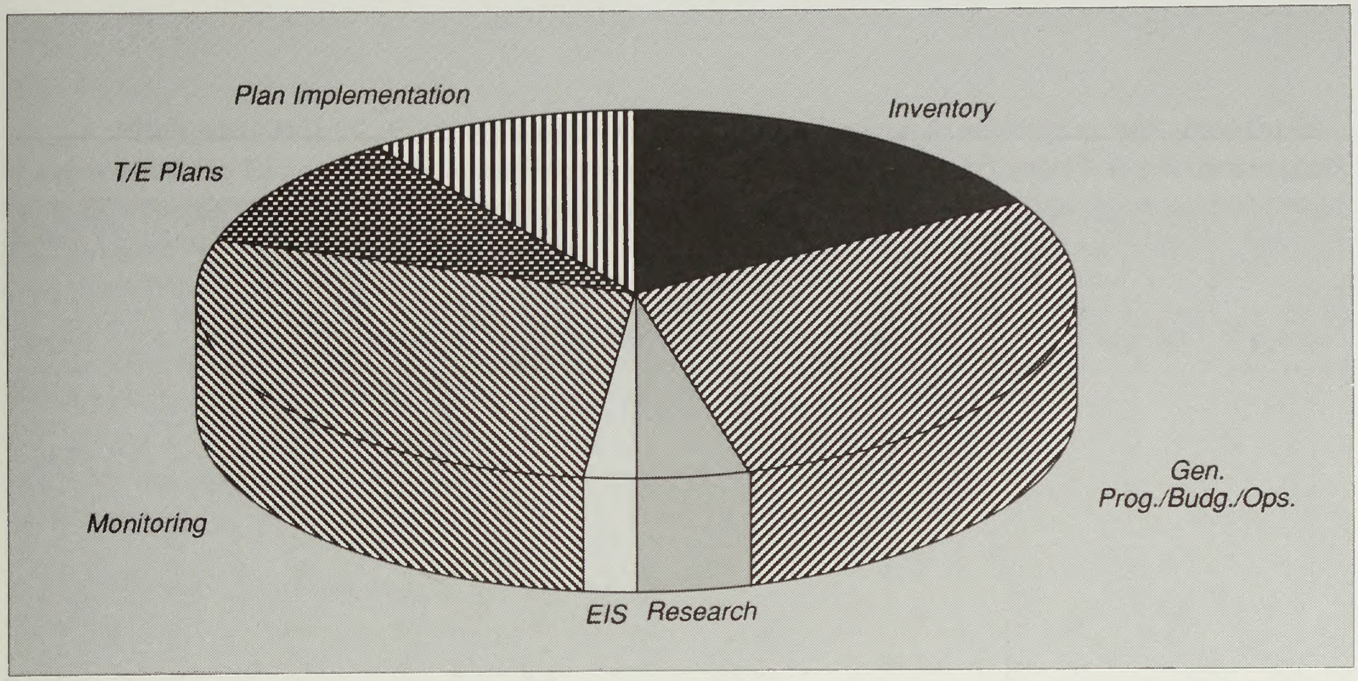
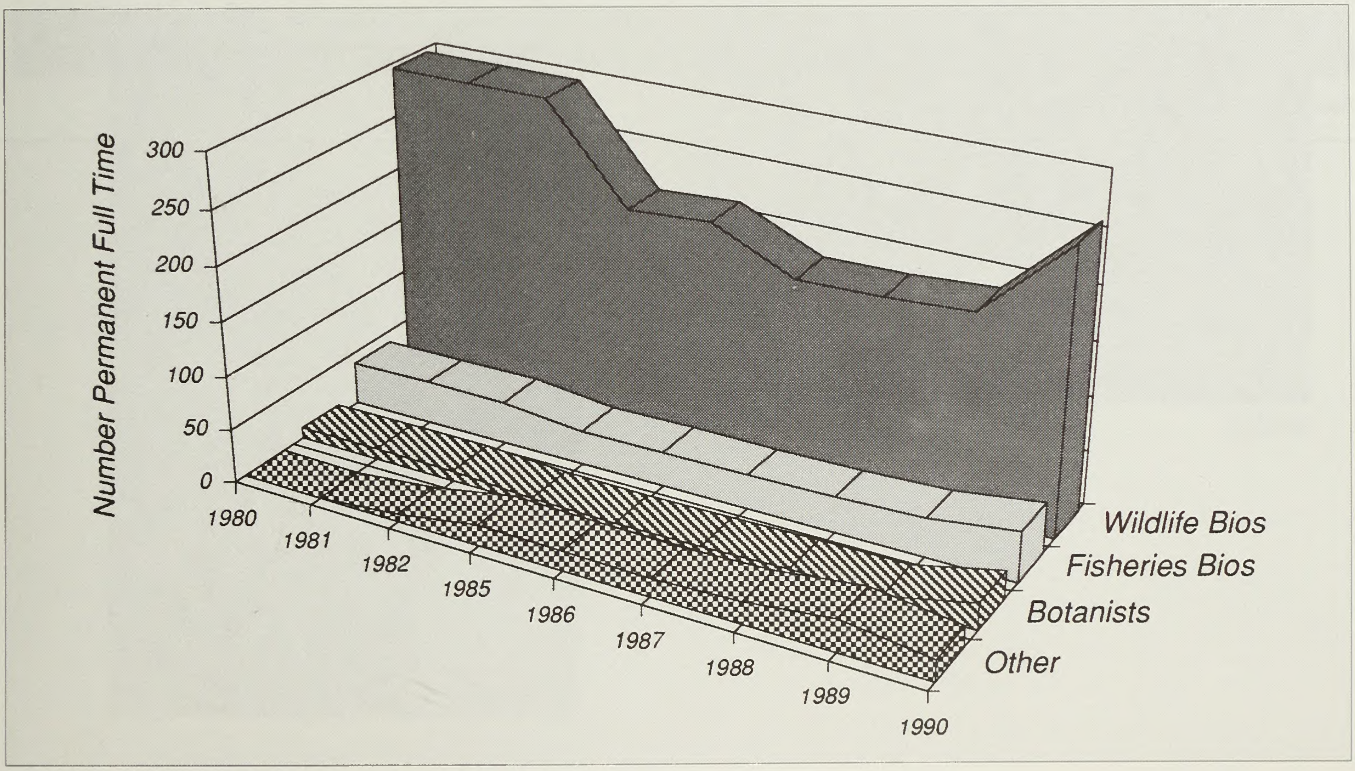


Source: BLM Financial Management System End of Year Report.

Based on fiscal year 90 total expenditures for T/E of $5.0 million.

Staffing History.



Source: WFIS/Program Personnel Data Base (8/1/91).

Current and Target Staffing Levels for BLM Wildlife and Fisheries Related Scientists.

	Wildlife		**Fisheries**		**Botanists**		**Other**		**Totals**	
Office	**Current**	**Target**	**Current**	**Target**	**Current**	**Target**	**Current**	**Target**	**Current**	**Target**
AK	5	39	6	39	0	6	0	23	11	107
AZ	26	39	3	6	2	8	6	39	37	92
CA	33	50	4	11	4	20	0	41	41	122
CO	16	30	2	9	1	5	0	31	19	75
ID	27	47	4	11	1	15	2	41	34	114
MT	18	36	2	7	1	8	0	30	21	81
NV	22	48	4	13	0	8	4	31	31	100
NM	19	27	1	1	3	6	0	14	23	48
OR	39	66	13	32	9	36	2	68	63	202
UT	22	34	2	5	1	12	2	39	27	90
WY	21	44	3	5	1	5	1	28	26	82
ESO	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	3
WO	5	9	1	2	0	1	2	7	6	19
PTC	3	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	5
SC	2	5	2	3	1	2	1	5	6	15
Totals	**260**	**480**	**47**	**145**	**25**	**132**	**19**	**398**	**351**	**1,155**

Source: WFIS/Program Personnel Data Base (8/1/91).

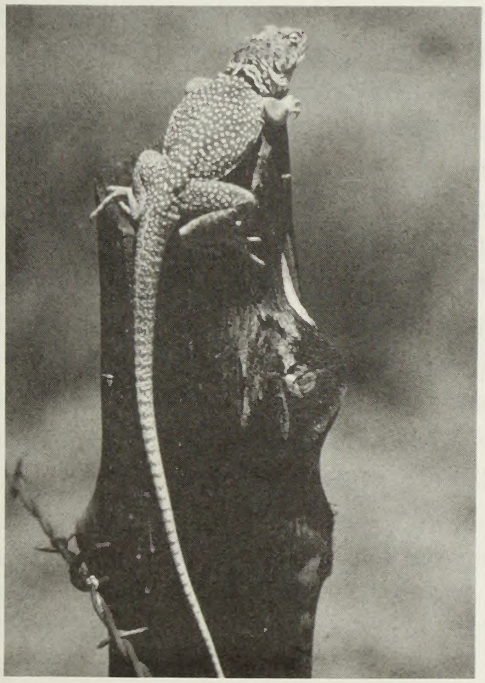
A FINAL LOOK

FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 has ushered in a new era at the BLM. It also has helped to bring about a new attitude about these valuable resources and the way we manage them. And it's a tangible change. The dozens of plans and on-the-ground projects spawned by "FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000" mentioned in this report represent only a sliver of all that has been accomplished since the plan was published in 1987 and implementation initiated in 1988.

We look to accomplish even more in the future. It will take our best effort, plus the support of Congress, and our hundreds of partners to make FISH AND WILDLIFE 2000 happen, but we believe it will happen.

Our fish and wildlife resources on the public lands deserve no less.

Collared Lizard



Bobcat

Appendix A

SHOWCASE HABITAT MANAGEMENT AREAS

Alaska

Norton Sound Aquatic Habitat Management Plan

The Norton Sound Aquatic Habitat Showcase Area covers 4,500,000 acres of prime aquatic and riparian habitat including over 1,000 miles of anadromous fish streams. The HMP for the area is a joint Federal-State plan for managing aquatic resources and riparian environments in watersheds that are tributaries to Norton Sound in northwestern Alaska. The priority species of focus within the HMP are the chinook, chum, coho, sockeye, pink salmon and Dolly Varden. A number of efforts have helped familiarize the public with the vast natural resources contained in this management area. In one recent example, BLM representatives hosted tours of the area for outdoor writers and other officials. Public affairs personnel will produce videos and still photography of project locations to support future publications. The BLM will also support the High School Educational Fisheries Project, a joint project with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Nome School District. Cooperators and contributors to the Norton Sound Aquatic Habitat Management Plan include the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Shaktoolik Village Native Corporation, and the Nome High School.

Arizona

Lower Gila South Habitat Management Plan

The Lower Gila South Habitat Showcase Area includes over 1,771,000 acres in southwestern Arizona. This vast tract hosts a wide variety of desert life, including the Sonoran pronghorn, an endangered species whose distribution is restricted to a small area in southern Arizona. Other wildlife includes the desert bighorn sheep, mule deer and desert tortoise. The Acuna Valley Pineapple Cactus, a plant species that is a candidate for threatened and endangered status, and the tumamoc globeberry, a Federally listed endangered plant species, is also found in the area. The BLM, together with the Arizona Game and Fish Department, has carried out a two-year study of habitat use patterns and vegetative characteristics of Sonoran Pronghorn use areas. Key allotments in desert tortoise and desert bighorn sheep habitat have been monitored, and planning and collection of environmental data is underway. Interim categorization of tortoise habitat has been completed and final categorization is anticipated in the near future. Monitoring of the Acuna Valley Pineapple Cactus has been carried out with the assistance of The Nature Conservancy, the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Monitoring of key allotments in desert tortoise and desert bighorn sheep habitat will be used to determine if vegetation cover and density have changed and whether HMP objectives and criteria are being met. Vegetation monitoring for the Vekol Valley ACEC, which lies within the HMP area, continues. The tumamoc globeberry is found only in this part of the showcase area.

Two water projects have been completed for desert bighorn sheep with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society. Planned projects included modifications to a number of existing wildlife water facilities.

California

Afton Canyon Natural Area

Afton Canyon Natural Showcase Area, a 41,000-acre wetland riparian area, was designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in 1980. The area's many ponds, marshes and streams provide habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. As one of the few places that a major river surfaces in the Mojave Desert, the canyon is a stopover area for migratory birds. This area also serves as a breeding and wintering ground for such species as the vermillion flycatcher, summer tanager, yellow warbler, and yellow-breasted chat. Golden eagles and prairie falcons nest here and other raptors have also been observed. Black bullhead, fathead minnow, and arroyo chub inhabit the river. The Mojave tui chub historically occurred in the area, which has been identified as a potential reintroduction site for other species. Management objectives emphasize improving riparian habitat and maintaining its size, improving wildlife habitat, providing low-impact recreational use compatible with wildlife, and scenic values. These objectives will be achieved through monitoring, land acquisition, firearms restrictions, tamarisk eradication, restricting vehicle use, rehabilitation of closed routes, livestock exclusion fencing, and visitor education.

California

Cedar Creek Watershed Improvement Project

The central feature of the 60,000-acre Cedar Creek Watershed Improvement Showcase Area is Cedar Creek, an 8.5 mile perennial creek lying entirely on private lands. The area is a potential reintroduction site for the Modoc sucker. Management objectives include reestablishment of a coldwater fishery on Cedar Creek, restoration of the hydrologic function of upland spring and meadow systems, increase in the quality, quantity, and diversity of forage resources for wildlife and livestock, and improvement of diversity and complexity of wildlife habitats. These have suffered in recent years from a heavy invasion of western juniper and mountain big sagebrush. This situation has been exacerbated by the absence of fire in recent years.

Cooperators include a 13-member Riparian Steering Committee appointed by the BLM, the Izaak Walton League Public Lands Restoration Task Force, The Nature Conservancy, local ranchers, and private landowners.

California

Cache Creek Habitat Management Plan

The 34,000-acre Cache Creek Habitat Showcase Area includes the Cache Creek Area of Critical Environment Concern (ACEC), a half-mile-wide corridor of public lands found along segments of Cache Creek and North Fork River. More than 500 tule elk, the second largest herd in California, live in the Cache Creek area, as well as more than 60 bald eagles. Golden eagles, wild turkeys and blacktail deer are also present. Management objectives include acquisition of additional wildlife habitat critical to the bald eagle and tule elk. Since 1985, the BLM has acquired 1,667 acres and the Department of Game and Fish has acquired 1,500 acres. Additional acquisitions are planned. Planned management actions involve the installation of barriers on four-wheel-drive roads where feasible, revegetation of riparian areas, eradication of non-native vegetation, removal of old barbed wire fencelines and other trash from the ACEC.

California

The Carrizo Plain Natural Area

The 180,000-acre Carrizo Plan Natural Showcase Area lies on the southwest edge of the San Joaquin Valley. A diverse complex of desert grasses and trees, the area displays little evidence of human visitation. The area's size, isolation, relatively undisturbed nature and expanse make it an ideal habitat for the threatened and endangered species that make their home there: the San Joaquin kit fox, the blunt-nosed leopard lizard, the giant kangaroo rat, the San Joaquin antelope squirrel, the California jewelflower, the San Joaquin wooly-threads and Hoover's wooly-star. The Carrizo Plain also provides seasonal habitat for 6,000 sandhill cranes and until recently habitat for the California Condor. Long-billed curlews and other shorebirds also abound. Management activities will be directed toward benefitting endangered species and their habitats in concert with the BLM's multiple use mandate. Cooperators include The Nature Conservancy, the California Department of Fish and Game, several California universities, the Smithsonian Institute, the California Energy Commission and many volunteer work groups.

Colorado

Arkansas Canyon Habitat Management Plan

The Arkansas Canyon Habitat Showcase Area covers 257, 625 acres and 50 miles of stream. Implementation actions include:

- instituting a public land identification signing program;
- maintaining fences and instream structures at the Texas Creek and Badger Creek Demonstration Area;
- monitoring these areas and the McCoy Gulch Riparian Demonstration Area;
- installing riparian plantings;
- surveying and designing a watchable wildlife viewing structure for viewing bighorn sheep along the Arkansas River;
- studying bighorn sheep, great blue herons and waterfowl along the Arkansas River;
- completing a riparian/aquatic inventory within the Arkansas Canyon Wildlife Habitat Area;
- coordinating peregrine falcon recovery actions; and,
- funding a potential peregrine falcon habitat inventory.

In addition to these projects, a cooperative research and development proposal envisions work with the Colorado State University and the Cattlemen's Association to develop data upon which to base grazing adjustments between livestock and big game species on critical winter ranges. Cooperators include the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Trout Unlimited, the National Wild Turkey Federation, the National Audubon Society, the Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Society, Canon City High School and Canon City Middle School.

Idaho

Elk City Aquatic Zone Habitat Management Plan

Located in west-central Idaho approximately 35 miles east of Grangeville, the Elk City Aquatic Zone Showcase Area encompasses 27 miles of stream and 683 acres of associated riparian habitat in a scenic mountain basin environment. Early dredge mining practices in the Elk City township damaged over 27 miles of riparian and anadromous fish habitat within the HMP area. The HMP seeks to repair chinook salmon, steelhead trout and riparian habitat. The riparian zone is particularly important to local populations of moose and white-tail deer. Management actions include elimination of fish migration barriers, installation of plantings along streambanks, stabilization of streambanks, installation of stream structures, reconstruction of channels, construction of connecting channels between dredge ponds for chinook rearing areas, and rehabilitation of dredge piles and installation of fencing and clean gravel.

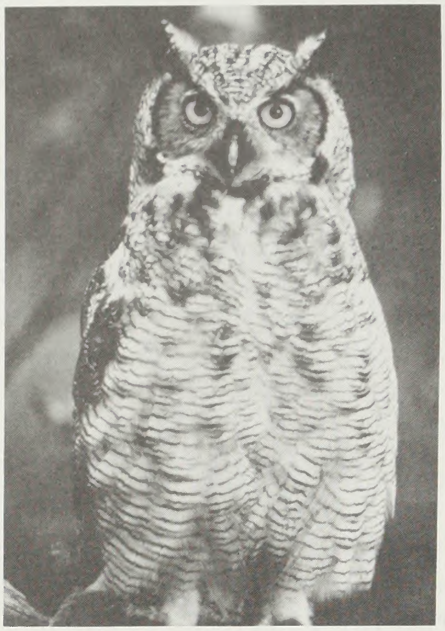
Chris Kelsely of BLM's Dickinson District stands beside snow fence that traps snow to increase water levels in a prairie wetland which benefit waterfowl nesting and brood rearing.

Montana

Prairie Potholes Habitat Management Plan

The Prairie Potholes Habitat Area is a Showcase Area centered around Beaver Creek and Comertown areas in Phillips and Sheridan counties. The Beaver Creek project involves creation of 3,800 acres of additional wetlands within the 300-square-mile project area. When this new wetland acreage is intermingled with large blocks of native prairie, valuable nesting habitat will be created. High nest success rates and high pair densities per wetland acre will contribute significantly towards increased fall flights of waterfowl. Aside from waterfowl production, full implementation of this HMP will result in improved condition of native rangeland and establishment of perennial cover on marginal cropland through upland vegetation management. Collectively, this will provide important habitat for many other species of wildlife. A major problem that will have to be addressed is the water allocation that currently exists on the Milk River drainage and the concerns of water users over additional impoundments.

Principal cooperators with the BLM in the Beaver Creek project area are the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, the Fish and Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Soil Conservation Service, the Montana Department of State Lands, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, and the Milk River Irrigation District. Thus far, the BLM has completed a cooperative wetland project with Ducks Unlimited that includes construction of 20 waterfowl nesting islands, acquired important waterfowl habitat through land exchanges, monitored waterfowl use and waterfowl production, and conducted a public affairs program in cooperation with other agencies.



The BLM manages at least portions of 223 key raptor sites, encompassing almost 14 million acres of public lands. Since ancient times, hawks, eagles, falcons, and owls have elicited the interest, even worship of humans. Today, this Great Horned Owl is an integral component of BLM's strategy for managing birds of prey - "Raptor Habitat Management on Public Lands."

Nevada

Marys River Habitat Management Plan

The Marys River Habitat Showcase Area involves a partnership between the BLM, the Nevada Department of Wildlife, and private landowners. These cooperative efforts are directed toward exchanging key parcels, obtaining conservation easements and exchange-of-use agreements, and outright purchase of private lands along the Marys River. The BLM has already completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed exchange of 900 acres of BLM lands in the Las Vegas Valley for 60,000 acres of land with extremely high resource values for wildlife, range, recreation, and watershed protection. Included in the proposed 60,000 acres are 88 miles of stream, 71 of which are historic or current habitat of the Lahonton Cutthroat Trout, a Federally listed threatened species. Unfortunately, these lands are fragmented and difficult to manage. Of equal importance, four of the 88 miles of stream provide critical spawning and nursery habitat to the Lahonton Cutthroat. The 60,000 acres include 12,000 acres of riparian habitat, 3,800 acres of bulrush/cattail marsh, and 1,300 acres of willow/cottonwood vegetation.

Numerous projects either have been or will be implemented. These include construction and reconstruction of riparian fences, habitat evaluation and monitoring, plantings, 25 miles of stream survey, and survey and design of corridor fences.

New Mexico

San Antonio Pot Mountain Habitat Management Plan

The San Antonio Pot Mountain Habitat Showcase Area encompasses 351,000 acres of public, private, and State lands in Taos County, New Mexico. This popular art and tourist center offers skiing, fishing, big game hunting, river rafting, museums, and historic cultural sites such as the Taos Indian Pueblo. The area covered by the HMP ranges in elevation from approximately 7,000 feet in the flat sagebrush mesa to 11,000 feet on San Antonio Mountain in the Cibola National Forest. It is home to one of the largest New Mexico wintering elk herds, as well as to pronghorn antelope and mule deer. Given the significant big game population in the area, the major thrust of the HMP is to improve and protect big game habitat. Consideration will also be given to raptors and other non-game, wildlife and riparian habitats. Implementation of the project work identified in this plan has already begun. Accomplishments to date include construction of fence modifications, wildlife watering facilities and a wildlife viewing area, production of a wildlife brochure and dietary overlap studies, and carrying out a prescribed fire to improve elk winter forage.

Various cooperators have participated in implementation efforts - the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department, the Forest Service, the Soil Conservation Service, Amigos Bravos (a private organization), the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and the One-Shot Antelope Foundation.

Oregon/Washington

Lincoln County Habitat Management Plan

Contained within the 4,500 acre Lincoln County Washington Showcase Area are 6.5 miles of stream and riparian, aquatic and wetlands habitats. One of the major goals is the acquisition of habitat through land exchange or purchase. Acquisition of these lands will enable the BLM to block up and better manage the important values contained in the area. Riparian enhancement projects undertaken thus far include fencing, planting and instream structures. Special grazing management has been initiated on four allotments, and waterfowl habitat enhancement has begun on three small lakes. Increased monitoring efforts for fisheries, water quality, sage grouse habitat, waterfowl nesting and raptor nesting is planned. Numerous areas have been signed. Outreach efforts have succeeded in generating considerable support for the HMP. The Inland Northwest Wildlife Council (an association of 11 wildlife organizations), the Washington Department of Wildlife, the Boy Scouts of America, the USDA's Forest Sciences Laboratory, the Washington Native Plant Society, the Soil Conversation Service, the Audubon Society and local ranchers have cooperated in implementing management actions.

Oregon/Washington

Warner Wetlands

Contained within the 51,045 acre Warner Wetlands Habitat Showcase Area are thousands of acres of wetlands habitat designated as the Warner Wetlands Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The ACEC is home to a variety of waterfowl and shorebirds. Untainted marshes and sloughs, hundreds of miles of unobstructed lake and channel shorelines, undrained swamps, holes and meadows make up this outstanding complex of wetland and upland habitats. Located in the vicinity of Lakeview, Oregon, this area hosts hundreds of thousands of waterbirds on their annual migrations. Thousands also use the valley's wetlands as their summer nesting grounds. Sandhill cranes and long-billed curlews are among the many species of birds to be found there. Multiple uses in the ACEC include managed grazing, wildlife habitat, recreation and cultural resource values. The University of Nevada (Reno) maintains an archeological school to research the prehistory of this unique area, and several other colleges and organizations have used the Warner Wetlands as a field classroom for the study of biology, ecology, ornithology, botany, and geology. Public interest in the wetlands is high and many organizations, including the Izaak Walton League, Ducks Unlimited, the Audubon Society, Friends of Wildlife and the National Wildlife Federation, have offered funding support, volunteer labor and other assistance to carry out wetland objectives.

Utah

Moquith Mountain/Parunuweap Canyon Coordinated Resource Management Area

The Moquith Mountain/Parunuweap Canyon Showcase Area encompasses 62,500 acres of public land, 9,797 acres of State land, and 10,415 acres of private land. Located west-northwest of Kanab, Utah, the area supports numerous resources and provides for an array of activities: watershed protection, camping, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, endangered plant species habitat, prehistoric cultural sites, historic trails and a variety of recreational activities such as off-highway vehicle driving and sightseeing, camping, backcountry hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and hunting.

The area encompassed by this Showcase Area contains several designated management areas, including the Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park, Ponderosa Grove Campground, Moquith Mountain Special Recreation Management Area, Moquith Mountain and Parunuweap Canyon Wilderness Study Areas, South Fork Indian Canyon Pictograph Site and the Water Canyon Area of Critical Environment Concern (ACEC). It also includes winter hunting and roosting habitat for the endangered bald eagle and yearlong habitat for Welsh's milkweed and four candidate species: Coral Pink Dunes tiger beetle, Kanab ambersnail, gumbo milkvetch (Astragalus ampullarius), and Zion daisy (Erigeron sionis). A particularly species-rich management area, it is also believed to provide habitat to four other threatened and endangered and candidate species. Other wildlife values in the area include critical mule deer winter range and yearlong range for desert bighorn sheep. A 13-member multiple land use steering committee assists in formulating management objectives and planned actions for this diverse area. The steering committee held its first meeting on March 27, 1990, and held its first tour of the management area on June 1, 1990.

Utah

Horseshoe Springs Habitat

The Horseshoe Springs Habitat Showcase Area covers an important wetland complex of springs and marshes located 50 miles west of Salt Lake City. The final draft of the HMP is currently out for review and approval is expected shortly. Waterfowl, shore birds and other typical aquatic/marsh mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and non-game birds live in this area. Long-billed curlews nest in the uplands and peregrine falcons use the area as feeding habitat. Minimal warm water fisheries also exist here, as does a candidate endangered species. This rich riparian and wetland area has been nominated a Watchable Wildlife Area. Waterfowl is the primary target species of management. Already a variety of activities have been undertaken, including an extensive vegetative survey, water analysis, and dike placement studies. Volunteer and cost share support are being lined up and planning for public participation is underway. As soon as appropriate after HMP approval, the BLM will host a formal dedication of the area, and informational brochures will be developed for public distribution. The area will be fully signed, and will include a signed hiking trail. A number of public organizations have expressed interest in helping to implement the HMP. The Tooele Wildlife Federation has agreed to assist in developing this area and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is a cosponsor of the plan and committed to assisting in its implementation. Other organizations thus far expressing an interest in the HMP include the Salt Lake County Wildlife Federation, Boy Scouts of America, and the American Salt and MagCorp (Amex).

Wyoming

Currant/Sage Creek Habitat Management Plan

The Currant/Sage Creek Habitat Showcase Area covers a diversified area spread over 79,000 acres and 31 miles of stream. The priority species for management are the Colorado River Cutthroat Trout, elk and deer. A variety of implementation actions will lead to achieving the objectives for habitat improvement. A grazing agreement will set utilization at 35 percent maximum and a rest rotation system will be implemented. Log overpour structures will be constructed in streams and woody vegetation planted. Plots and vegetation will be photographed for study purposes. A wide variety of outreach efforts have familiarized the public with the Currant/Sage Creek HMP. These include media field tours on Sage and Currant Creeks, a talk show on local radio, a feature story in the local newspaper and another in BLM's fall "Wyoming Horizons," and a variety of articles showcasing volunteer help on HMP projects. Numerous public and private individuals and organizations have cooperated on the HMP. These include the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, the Lower Green River/Flaming Gorge Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Rock Springs radio stations KRKK and KSIT and Green River station KUGR, Sweetwater Television Corporation, the Rocket Miner and Rock Springs newspapers and local ranchers.

Epipactus gigantea, a BLM sensitive plant, is one of many species of rare plants found on the Lucile Caves Area of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Area (ACEC/ RNA) in BLM's Coeur D'Alene District.

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